

IOWA BIRD LIFE

IOWA ORNITHOLOGISTS' UNION



Spring 2007 . Volume 77 . Number 2



IOWA BIRD LIFE

The Iowa Ornithologists' Union, founded in 1923, encourages interest in the identification, study, and protection of birds in Iowa and seeks to unite those who have these interests in common. Iowa Bird Life and IOU News are quarterly publications of the Union.

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Iowa Christmas Bird Count, 2006–2007

Chris Caster

The number of Iowa Christmas Counts increased for the third straight year to 52, a new high. Although the Humboldt County count was not held, we added three others—Dallas County, Lamoni, and Neal Smith NWR. You might notice that the counts are now arranged a little differently, and I believe more appropriately, by region. See Table 1.

As usual the weather played a significant role in this season's count. December began with sub-zero temps, but when it was all over we had our warmest December since 1965. Red Rock reported a high of 61 degrees on 16 Dec and only Worth County on 1 Jan reported a high below the freezing mark. A few counts reported ponds being frozen, but most had a great deal of open water available and the waterfowl counts reflected that. Most significant was the lack of snow cover statewide. Only Worth County reported any snow. This made open country birds harder to find and reduced feeder activity, but it also allowed short-distance migrants to remain in Iowa in substantially greater numbers. The weather conditions were very conducive to walking and this may have been a factor in the large numbers of birds found.

The total species count this season was 141, which is just one species shy of the record set two years ago, and well above the average of 133. The total number of birds counted was 646,872, the second highest count total since 1990–1991, and well above the ten-year average of 482,813. Obviously we should expect to see these numbers increase somewhat, if we continue to add more counts. This was the first year in the last seven in which Keokuk did not hold the high species count. That honor went to Saylorville with an Iowa CBC record 96 species, smashing the previous high CBC of 92 species, also set by Saylorville on the 1990–1991 CBC. Other high counts this year included Clinton (81), Green Island (80), Keokuk (78), Davenport and Iowa City (77), and Union County (76). De Soto NWR (65) led the Missouri River counts. Spirit Lake (67) led the Northern Third. The average count this year had 13 people, 5.7 field parties, and found 57.5 species.

REGULAR SPECIES

Most counts turned in higher than usual species totals and numbers. An astounding 32 species were seen in record numbers this season. Overall waterfowl numbers were up and all regular species were present. Gull numbers were above average and six species were recorded. It was also an above average year for raptors and one of the best years in many for owls. Shrike numbers were average. Short-distance migrants were abundant, but there was little influx of northern or western species. Open country birds were hard to find. Frequently reported species are recorded in Table 2. Species found on three or fewer count are shown in Table 3.

Greater White-fronted Geese (70) were found on seven counts with a flock of 50 at Iowa City. Snow Geese (1,886) were not present in great numbers. They were scattered modestly among 21 counts, but with 1,054 at DeSoto NWR, 396 at Shenandoah, and 300 at Siam-Hopkins. Ross's Geese (12) were found on six counts. Thirty counts reported Cackling Geese (2,403) this year, probably due to the milder conditions and/or the excellent identification ar-

ticle in the Summer 2006 *Iowa Bird Life* (Hertzel, Silcock, and Dinsmore 2006). Canada Geese (117,358) posted record numbers. A lone Mute Swan was at Keokuk. Trumpeter Swans (119) were reported in record numbers for the third year and more than doubled last year's total. An amazing fifty birds were reported on the SE Webster County count. Tundra Swans (522) were all found at Clinton, except for one bird at Rathbun.

Nearly all puddle ducks were found in numbers somewhat below their 10-year averages. Mallards (78,802) were found in average numbers and nearly a third of those were at De Soto (25,008). Other large Mallard counts came from Spirit Lake (15,562), Shenandoah (9,418), and Union County (5,508). Wood Ducks (32) were found in their highest numbers this century. Gadwalls (371) were scattered among 25 counts and only missed in the Northern Third. American Black Ducks (45) posted their lowest numbers in twenty years. Fourteen at Clinton was the most. Northern Shovelers (150) were high in Wapello County for the second straight year with 42 birds. Northern Pintails (26) and Green-winged Teal (94) were also scarce. Forty-four teal at Omaha was again high.

Diving ducks were much more numerous, owed primarily to efforts on the Keokuk and Clinton counts. Greater Scaup (795) nearly doubled last year's record count. Most of those birds were at Keokuk. Lesser Scaup (2,345) were also quite numerous and reported from 25 counts. Canvasbacks (38,020) were found in record numbers. Redheads (54) were below average, but found on twelve counts. Ring-necked Ducks (595) were most numerous at Keokuk with 428 birds. Common Goldeneyes (9,677) were more than double their ten-year average. All four sea duck species were found this year. Keokuk hit the scoter trifecta with single birds of each species. Union County added two White-winged Scoters. Two Long-tailed Ducks were reported from Red Rock, two from Keokuk, and one from Spirit Lake. Buffleheads (81) were reported in decent numbers. Common Mergansers (23,764) were at near record numbers with the large reservoirs leading the way: Red Rock had 12,000, Saylorville 5,300, and Rathbun 5,182. Hooded Mergansers (159) and Red-breasted Mergansers (21) were both found in somewhat above average numbers. Ruddy Ducks (450) had decent numbers, but 428 of those were at Keokuk.

Gallinaceous birds were a mixed bag. Gray Partridges (14) were reported from just three counts. This was in stark contrast to the 174 birds found with extensive snow cover last year. Ring-necked Pheasants (622) were also a far cry from the 3,151 birds of a year ago. Ruffed Grouse (4) were reported from just two counts. Wild Turkey (2,416) were again well above the ten-year average. As usual, the Missouri River counts were most productive. The Omaha count was high with 301 gobblers. Northern Bobwhite (136) rebounded for the second straight year to numbers above the 10-year average. It is not surprising that Lamoni had the high with 31 birds, given the location, habitat, and the extraordinary miles walked by their observers. The addition of that count was really the difference between this year and last.

Pied-billed Grebes (11) were found in below average numbers. Possibly they were forced south by the cold temps in November and just never returned. American White Pelicans (25) were found in average numbers with 20 at Keokuk. Double-crested Cormorant (51) numbers were above average with 24 at Rathbun. Great Blue Heron (314) was one species to take advantage of the mild conditions, shattering their previous record count of 186 birds from four years ago.

Bald Eagles (3,333) were found in numbers that were second only to last year's record total. They were reported on all 52 counts, and 466 birds at Burlington were the high. Northern

Harrier (125) was another species to take advantage of the mild conditions, posting the best numbers in twelve years, with 18 birds at Lamoni. Sharp-shinned Hawks (75) were above average and Cooper's Hawks (103) produced a new record high. Single Northern Goshawks were reported from Cherokee and De Soto. Red-shouldered Hawks (9) were reported on seven counts. Three on the Cedar Falls-Waterloo count was high. Red-tailed Hawks (2,037) were reported in near record numbers. Rough-legged Hawks (77) were harder to find than usual and likely taking advantage of the milder conditions up north. Single Golden Eagles were reported from four counts. American Kestrels (813) established a new record and highest total in twelve years. Merlins (11) equaled what had been the record high previous to last year's eighteen birds. Not unexpectedly, Des Moines had the high with three birds. Single Peregrine Falcons were reported from four urban counts. No Prairie Falcons were reported this year.

American Coots (695) were found in decent numbers at opposite ends of the state with 301 at Keokuk and 238 at Spirit Lake. Killdeer (28) were somewhat below average and Wilson's Snipes (18) were at a 9-year low. Ring-billed Gulls (48,707) were at near record numbers. Herring Gulls (2,178) were nearly average. Thayer's Gulls (3) were found in below average numbers. An identification article on Thayer's/Iceland Gulls in *IBL* (Silcock 2004) might improve those numbers—any takers? A single Glaucous Gull was at Saylorville and a single Bonaparte's Gull was at Shenandoah.

Rock Pigeons (12,172) for the third straight year posted their highest count since 1988–1989. The ever-interesting Eurasian Collared-Doves (249) again set a new high, but appear to have plateaued after the 237 birds last year. Des Moines and Boone County each found 35 birds and Ida County had 32. Mourning Doves (6,806) again established a new record high, but please don't tell anyone.

Eastern Screech-Owls (159) produced the highest numbers since 1988–1989. Eighteen at Boone County were exceptional. Great Horned Owls (301) had the best total in sixteen years. Barred Owls (211) crushed last year's record high of 164. Long-eared Owls (65) produced the second highest total in twenty years. Short-eared Owls (8) were reported from seven counts and three others had count-week birds. Northern Saw-whet Owls (10) were found at twice the ten-year average. The increased owling efforts this year can somewhat account for the numbers. For instance, in 2004–2005 only 83 Eastern Screech-Owls were found, the lowest total in six years; however, the total owling that year was 82.25 hours and 777.3 miles. This year the owling effort was 50% better with 120 hours and 1076.3 miles.

Belted Kingfishers (209) were found in record numbers and 29 birds at Green Island were impressive. Woodpeckers as a group were uncommonly abundant except for Red-headed Woodpeckers (127), which were near a seven-year low. Red-bellied Woodpeckers (2,526), Yellow-bellied Sapsuckers (38), Downy (3,005) and Hairy (847) Woodpeckers, Pileated Woodpeckers (132), and Northern Flickers (1,251) all established new record highs.

It was an average year for Northern Shrikes (26) and the birds were scattered all across the state. Four at Saylorville was high. Loggerhead Shrikes (6) were reported from five counts with two from the Middle Third; one each at Iowa City and Jamaica. Blue Jay (4,253) numbers were somewhat above average. American Crows (58,570) were somewhat below average. Horned Larks (465) posted the second lowest total in twenty years. Even Saylorville, with their record-setting 96 species, could not find a Horned Lark. Black-capped Chickadees (6,990) and Tufted Titmouse (773) numbers were right at their 10-year average. Red-breasted Nuthatches

(169) posted respectable numbers and 25 at Saylorville was high. The White-breasted Nuthatch (4,022) total obliterated last year's record of 3,250 birds. Brown Creepers (283) were at the average. Andalusia had the high for the second year running with 53 birds. Carolina Wrens (250) were seemingly everywhere; a new record high was more than double the previous high from last year. Winter Wren (33) numbers were above average. Single Marsh Wrens were reported from Sioux City and Red Rock. Golden-Crowned Kinglets (179) posted the highest total in seven years. A record ten Ruby-crowned Kinglets were reported from five counts. Four of those were at Davenport.

It was also an extremely good count season for the thrush family. Eastern Bluebirds (1,248), Hermit Thrushes (31), and American Robins (10,872) were all found in record numbers. Northern Mockingbirds (16) were also at record numbers. The previous high had been six. Four were found at both Green Island and Lamoni. Single Gray Catbirds were found at Ames and Taylor County. Two Brown Thrashers were at Westfield and a count week bird was at Ames. European Starling (90,627) numbers were at an all-time high. The game Saylorville count toppled Davenport as "Starling Capitol for a Year," and hopefully "for Life" with 12,162 birds—too bad about that Horned Lark. Cedar Waxwings (5,891) were also found in record numbers. Yellow-rumped Warblers (38) were reported on 15 counts in above-average numbers.

Sparrow numbers were generally good. Four Spotted Towhees, three Eastern Towhees, and one towhee species were reported. American Tree Sparrow (11,499) numbers were nearly average. Field Sparrows (4) were found at Green Island, Muscatine, and Cherokee. Fox Sparrows (40) were at double the ten-year average and reported from seventeen counts. Song Sparrows (690) were average and Swamp Sparrows (172) were well above average. Four Savannah Sparrows tied the count record. One Lincoln's Sparrow was at Ames. White-throated Sparrows (567) were found in numbers well above average. Harris's Sparrows (138) were well below average for the fourth year, but their numbers seem to fluctuate quite a bit. The high was 51 birds at DeSoto. White-crowned Sparrows (41) were scarce after last year's record-high of 126 birds. Andalusia had eight. Dark-eyed Juncos (20,300) were as numerous as ever. Lapland Longspurs (706) were scarce outside of the Northern Third. Snow Buntings (163) were nearly all found at Mason City. Northern Cardinals (6,911) were at above-average numbers.

Icterid numbers were extremely good. We haven't seen close to this many Red-winged Blackbirds (21,613) in twenty years. Red Rock was high with 6,720 birds. Meadowlarks (232) were very average. While most counts reported meadowlark sp., six counts managed to identify seven birds to a species and those are listed in Table 3. Rusty Blackbirds (193) posted the third highest total in seventeen years. Brewer's Blackbirds (40) were reported on five counts. A flock of 34 birds at Neal Smith was exceptional, but this was an exceptional year. On only two counts in the last 20 years have we had more than thirty birds state wide. Common Grackles (875) were well above the ten-year average of 375. Two Great-tailed Grackles were at Spirit Lake and another was at Des Moines. Brown-headed Cowbirds (1,749) were found well above their average of 1,156. Clinton was high with 412 birds.

It was a poor year for finches. Purple Finches (393) were found somewhat below the average of 529. House Finches (1,754) were well below last year's record of 5,025. Common Redpolls were reported from three counts with 9 birds at DeSoto. Pine Siskins (28) had the third lowest total in twenty years. American Goldfinches (5,227) posted numbers slightly above average. A single Red Crossbill at Taylor County was the only crossbill.

House Sparrows (19,996) had the lowest total in over twenty years. Eurasian Tree Sparrows (703) continued with good numbers. Burlington had 255 birds. Single birds at Princeton and Iowa City marked the boundary of their expansion.

NOTABLE MISSES

There weren't many notable misses this year with the exception of Common Loon, which had been seen on 6 of the last 10 counts. Also missed were: Black-crowned Night-Heron, Sandhill Crane, Varied Thrush, American Pipit, White-winged Crossbill (all 4 of last 10); Prairie Falcon, Townsend's Solitaire, Common Yellowthroat (all 3 of last 10).

UNCOMMON SPECIES

There were 32 species reported on three or less counts. Birds moved this year from Table 3 to Table 2 were many and included Greater White-fronted Goose, Ross's Goose, Greater Scaup, Red-breasted Merganser, White Pelican, Double-crested Cormorant, Peregrine Falcon, Snowy Owl, Short-eared Owl, Ruby-crowned Kinglet, and Brewer's Blackbird.

This year was notable for some truly outstanding birds. Although somewhat overshadowed by the discussion over the Dallas County redpoll, the Slaty-backed Gull discovered at Lake Manawa on the Omaha count, might well be the most fantastic Iowa CBC bird ever. This north-east Asian bird normally winters in the Sea of Japan and only occasionally wanders to western Alaska. The only previous record of it in Iowa was from Scott County in February 1989. Thankfully the gull stuck around and was well documented by many and with photographs.

A redpoll discovered on the Dallas County CBC at the Brenton Arboretum also stayed long enough to be photographed by Mark Brown of Iowa City, who questioned the identification. Soon many were traveling to observe and photograph the Brenton redpoll. The consensus was a Hoary Redpoll of the race *C. h. exlipes*. The differences between Hoary and Common Redpolls are subtle and few birders in Iowa have experience with both. Although this bird was originally reported on the day of the count as a Common Redpoll, it seemed most appropriate to change the official record to Hoary Redpoll.

Just to make for an even more unusual year, four Snowy Owls were reported from four counts. It was the most Snowy Owls since five were recorded in 1993–1994. Four Horned Grebes at Keokuk tied a record high. A Blue-winged Teal at Yellow River Forest, an Ovenbird at Cedar Falls-Waterloo, and a Yellow-headed Blackbird at Spirit Lake were also great birds. This was the second straight year that seven Black-billed Magpies were at Westfield and the 5th year out of the last seven that they have appeared on the CBC.

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Table 1. Site Data for 2006–2007 Christmas Bird Counts

Location	Date	Total		Field		Miles			Owling		Feeder		Temp		Snow Depth	Wind
		Species	Birds	Obs	Pts	Hr	Car	Ft	Hr	Mi	Pt	Hr	L	H		
MISSISSIPPI RIVER																
1. Yellow River Forest	29-Dec	52	4738	9	5	34	313	11	2	15	0	0	36	43	0	SE 0-10
2. SE Clayton County	1-Jan	51	3084	4	4	32	202	13	1	24	0	0	32	41	0	WNW 12-19
3. Dubuque	30-Dec	43	4941	17	7	47	265.8	24	0	0	2	2	37	47	0	E 7-15
4. Green Island	15-Dec	80	9755	15	6	51.5	371	7.5	5.25	57	0	0	34	45	0	W 0-20
5. Clinton	19-Dec	81	16706	8	4	34.75	315	4.5	5.75	67	1	1	20	52	0	W 0-5
6. Princeton	20-Dec	67	6644	6	4	30	301	4.25	3.75	50	0	0	25	36	0	SE 0-5
7. Davenport	17-Dec	77	18772	18	7	61.25	492	13.75	10	75	15	20.75	40	53	0	SW 0-5
8. Andalusia	28-Dec	72	8617	5	4	28.25	222	6.75	4.25	29	0	0	36	51	0	W 0-5
9. Muscatine	23-Dec	65	6585	9	4	34.75	318	7.5	5.5	51	6	9	36	42	0	W 10-20
10. West Mercer County	26-Dec	69	7137	8	4	35.75	209	7	5.5	45	0	0	34	43	0	NW 0-10
11. Burlington	16-Dec	75	11756	15	5	44	245	11	1	10	2	4	42	59	0	S 13-21
12. Keokuk	18-Dec	78	72782	10	5	90	386	15.5	1	13	0	0	38	44	0	W 5-15
MISSOURI RIVER																
13. Westfield	6-Jan	53	6715	31	11	68	191	19	2	11	3	9	38	48	0	SW 5-15
14. Sioux City	16-Dec	59	18597	14	7	38.5	352	23.5	2	5	6	6	33	44	0	NW 0-15
15. De Soto NWR	23-Dec	65	35201	22	9	74.5	398	34.7	1.5	10	1	0.5	28	43	0	W 6-10
16. Omaha	16-Dec	64	15267	30	8	59.5	326.5	31.5	0	0	3	13	38	53	0	NW 0-12
NORTHERN THIRD																
17. NW Clayton County	23-Dec	47	4530	5	4	34	345	7	2	22	1	1	32	39	0	W 10-16
18. Decorah	22-Dec	47	4161	10	4	35	336	9	1	5	5	5	34	39	0	N 0-10
19. Bremer County	16-Dec	45	6482	7	4	25	278	12	1	4	0	0	34	53	0	SW 0-5
20. Mason City	16-Dec	50	12822	10	7	56.5	368	23.5	2.25	15	6	14	31	38	0	S 5
21. Worth County	1-Jan	40	5887	4	3	24.5	191	14	0.5	1.5	0	0	20	27	1	N 5-20
22. Spirit Lake	16-Dec	67	40831	7	3	17	209	2.25	0.25	0	32	10	36	45	0	WNW 5-15
23. Cherokee	17-Dec	44	2430	8	4	22	350	4	1	10	1	4	25	40	0	NW 5-15
MIDDLE THIRD																
24. Lost Nation	18-Dec	57	5864	15	5	40	324	7.5	2	31	1	2	30	40	0	NW 0-5

25.	North Linn	27-Dec	57	4681	6	3	23.5	213	2.5	2.5	20.5	0	0	25	40	0	SW 0-10
26.	Cedar Rapids	16-Dec	69	14421	16	6	46.5	348	7	3.75	45	3	6	37	57	0	SSE 5-10
27.	Iowa City	17-Dec	77	13309	38	11	72	510	34	8	73	18	54	34	45	0	NW 6-12
28.	Amara	29-Dec	40	766	10	2	12	20	6	2	8	0	0	38	52	0	N 5-10
29.	Cedar Falls-Waterloo	17-Dec	67	19366	6	6	40	413	15	1	4	1	2	23	41	0	SW 5-15
30.	Eldora-Union	20-Dec	32	677	3	2	12	119.3	5	0.75	9.8	2	na	24	35	0	E light
31.	Marshalltown	15-Dec	28	5279	9	4	23	200	2	0	0	3	15	30	42	0	WNW 10-15
32.	Grinnell	16-Dec	34	1380	12	3	62	80	20	0	0	5	28	42	58	0	W 5-15
33.	Ames	16-Dec	71	25149	36	17	80.5	449	53	7.5	76	6	15	35	54	0	SW 6-10
34.	Saylorville Reservoir	17-Dec	96	40482	28	11	74	610	43	4.25	52	0	0	30	43	0	NNW 3-12
35.	Des Moines	30-Dec	61	27335	16	6	39	411	13	1	3	9	53	35	45	0	E 5-15
36.	Neal Smith NWR	23-Dec	39	7354	24	8	42.75	121	26.5	0.5	8	0	0	27	39	0	W 9-22
37.	SE Webster County	30-Dec	43	2690	11	4	24	125	7	0	0	3	6	45	52	0	S 5-10
38.	Boone County	30-Dec	66	10874	39	21	102	516	53.75	9	55	10	32	41	50	0	E 9-20
39.	Jamaica	19-Dec	63	13840	15	4	34	324	25	1.5	32	1	4	17	43	0	SW 5-12
40.	Dallas County	16-Dec	56	5053	11	6	74	351	32	0	0	12	30	38	57	0	WSW 3-21
41.	Sac County	30-Dec	31	2194	15	5	23	170	15	0	0	4	15	40	45	0	SW 0-5
42.	Carroll County	16-Dec	49	2766	9	5	18.5	118	15	1	5	11	11.5	40	52	0	SW 15-20
43.	Ida County	30-Dec	45	3163	15	9	48	250	6	1	1	5	12	39	46	0	NNW 10-15
SOUTHERN THIRD																	
44.	Van Buren County	2-Jan	29	849	4	1	8.5	35	4	0	0	0	0	22	43	0	SW 5-15
45.	Wapello County	30-Dec	32	6542	5	2	13.5	21	0.5	0	0	0	0	34	46	0	SE 5-10
46.	Red Rock Reservoir	16-Dec	74	40084	8	5	33	324	8	0.5	7	0	0	43	61	0	S 0-5
47.	Rathbun Reservoir	16-Dec	71	15876	24	8	42	470	19.5	6	55	3	7	27	50	0	SW 5-12
48.	Lamoni	25-Dec	65	8941	18	7	39.5	28*	64.5*	4.5	9.5	0	0	22	37	0	N 10-20
49.	Union County	23-Dec	76	14176	4	2	20	322	4	0.5	12	0	0	27	39	0	calm
50.	Taylor County	30-Dec	58	6554	6	3	23.5	178.6	12	0	0	0	0	49	55	0	E 10-15
51.	Siam-Hopkins	17-Dec	42	3592	2	1	9	81.6	2	0	0	0	0	33	52	0	NNE 10-15
52.	Shenandoah	16-Dec	71	19175	18	7	52.5	368	30	4.25	50	9	80	38	55	0	SSW 4-22
TOTALS			141	646872													

* No motorized vehicles were used on the Lamoni CBC, just horse and buggy. Walked miles includes one birder on horseback.

Table 2a. Christmas Bird Count Data, 2006–2007

Location	Gr W-f Go	Sn Go	Ro Go	Cack Go	Ca Go	Tr Sw	Wo Du	Ga	Am Wi	Am Bl Du	Ma	No Sh
MISSISSIPPI RIVER												
1. Yellow River Forest					210					4	406	
2. SE Clayton County					161	3		18				
3. Dubuque					25						350	
4. Green Island		1		19	1994			8	1	2	383	1
5. Clinton				8	1011	3				14	835	
6. Princeton					328	7		3			150	
7. Davenport				4	2814		1	1		1	1008	3
8. Andalusia					454		13	2			91	
9. Muscatine					125						172	
10. West Mercer County	1			2	1413			20	2	5	1322	2
11. Burlington		2		6	2091		2	47	2		44	
12. Keokuk					1002		2	25	2		774	9
Subtotals	1	3	0	39	11628	13	18	124	7	26	5535	15
MISSOURI RIVER												
13. Westfield		9		44	1512		3	2			1085	
14. Sioux City		61		28	8790		3	9	5		3358	
15. De Soto NWR		1064	6	20	2304	8		2	5		25008	
16. Omaha		17			1827		cw	7	cw		660	1
Subtotals	0	1151	6	92	14433	8	6	20	10	0	30111	1
NORTHERN THIRD												
17. NW Clayton County											1	
18. Decorah				24	718						6	
19. Bremer County		5		20	3584					1	1233	
20. Mason City		cw		120	3401	7	1			1	1072	
21. Worth County				55	4573						64	
22. Spirit Lake	7	7	2	422	19345				3	1	15562	
23. Cherokee												
Subtotals	7	12	2	641	31621	7	1	0	3	3	17938	0
MIDDLE THIRD												
24. Lost Nation					629	3					17	
25. North Linn				5	228						19	
26. Cedar Rapids	1	1		20	2710			2		3	1126	
27. Iowa City	50		1	102	4125		4	10		2	822	
28. Amana					35	3					6	
29. Cedar Falls-Waterloo		3		8	4191	28				4	677	5
30. Eldora-Union					200						12	
31. Marshalltown					3501						174	
32. Grinnell					375		1				97	3
33. Ames	2		cw	495	3981		1				188	
34. Saylorville Reservoir	1	1	1	115	4580	2		9		2	1653	20
35. Des Moines		2			1323			55		2	366	32
36. Neal Smith NWR					1725						24	
37. SE Webster County		1		6	800	50					502	
38. Boone County				2	301						4	
39. Jamaica	8	6	1	66	10712			16			600	2
40. Dallas County				6	1162						2	
41. Sac County		2			252						48	
42. Carroll County		1			864			1	3		801	2
43. Ida County					33	1		7			136	
Subtotals	62	17	3	825	41727	87	6	100	3	13	7274	64
SOUTHERN THIRD												
44. Van Buren County					674			9				
45. Wapello County		2			5000		1				40	42
46. Red Rock Reservoir		4		445	1539	1		49	1		619	6
47. Rathbun Reservoir				204	4659	3		14	1		1895	15
48. Lamoni	cw	cw		5	364						1	
49. Union County		2		104	3397			1	1	2	5508	
50. Taylor County				1	86			16			451	
51. Siam-Hopkins		300		27	1470						12	
52. Shenandoah		395	1	20	760			38	28	1	9418	7
Subtotals	0	703	1	806	17949	4	1	127	31	3	17944	70
TOTALS	70	1886	12	2403	117358	119	32	371	54	45	78802	150

No Pi	Gr Wi Te	Ca	Re	Ri Ne Du	Gr Sc	Le Sc	Bu	Co Go	Ho Me	Co Me	R-b Me	Ru Du	Ri Ne Ph	Wi Tu	No Bo	Pi Bi Gr
						2		11		140			3	87		
										435			3	63		
4		21	5	8		10		49		10			2	12		
2	10	819	3	89		853	5	1816	1	100	1	7	15	12		
				1		9		53		4		7	4	95	1	
		40	1	13		124	9	195	2	1		2	3	63		
	1							34	2	6	12			47		
		4			1	4	1	37	1				1	31		1
	7			3						2	2		7	44		
		6		5		7		46		2			12	21	5	
	6	37100	16	428	776	1264	53	5827	108	11		428		45	12	3
6	24	37990	25	547	777	2273	68	8068	114	711	15	444	50	550	18	4
						2		41					28	133	10	
1	5							95	1	17			2	188		
				1				126		246			16	259	9	
2	44	cw		cw		1		108	7	104			1	301	12	1
3	49	0	0	1	0	3	0	370	8	367	0	0	47	881	31	1
													4	164		
	5												7	177		
								1					7	29		
	1	cw				3							6	2		
								4	1				6	6		
4		19	2	3	4	9	7	218	5	88		2	10	28		
													9	39		
4	6	19	2	3	4	12	7	223	6	88	0	2	49	445	0	0
													53	129		
1	1					4		120	12				21	8	1	
				3		1		5	1	40		1	34	35	12	3
													22			
	1					1		1		3		3	5	4		
													11			
													3	6		
cw				cw		3	1	7					40			
1	2			1	2	3	1	454	5	5300	2		21	22	13	
				3		3		10	4	39			2	16		
													7	25		
	1			1		2		1					37	9		
										31			41	17		
				3		2			2				62			
1													13	10	15	
													4			
1		7	3			5		2					22	4		
				1		1		1					17	13		
4	5	7	17	11	2	25	2	601	24	5413	2	4	400	377	41	3
				1				14						4		
				2		8	7	10	3	318	3	12000	9	35		
				6		24		10		56	4	5182	5	11	8	3
													14	19	31	
2		4	1	1	5	12	1	26		2			1			
1								1					12	69	cw	
													9	1		
6	8			cw				cw		1			26	24	7	
9	10	4	10	33	12	32	4	415	7	17185	4	0	76	163	46	3
26	94	38020	54	595	795	2345	81	9677	159	23764	21	450	622	2416	136	11

Table 2b. Christmas Bird Count Data, 2006–2007

Location	Am Wh Pe	D-c Co	Gr Bl He	Ba Ea	No Ha	Sh Sh Ha	Co Ha	ac sp	Re Sh Ha	Re Ta Ha	Ro Le Ha
MISSISSIPPI RIVER											
1. Yellow River Forest			1	200	3		1			32	2
2. SE Clayton County				101		1	1			39	3
3. Dubuque			4	45		1	1			29	
4. Green Island			8	206		1	3			43	4
5. Clinton		2	41	114	1	1	3		1	54	3
6. Princeton			4	36			1			27	1
7. Davenport		15	55	88	1	2	5			45	2
8. Andalusia		4	12	101	1	1	2			34	
9. Muscatine			15	84	1	5	2		1	55	2
10. West Mercer County			24	284	3	2	3		1	37	1
11. Burlington		1	37	466	2	3	3			18	1
12. Keokuk	20	3	62	379	2	1	1			43	
Subtotals	20	25	263	2104	14	18	26	0	3	456	19
MISSOURI RIVER											
13. Westfield				43	6		1			73	10
14. Sioux City		1	3	4	1	1	cw			68	2
15. De Soto NWR			2	36	9	3	3			117	
16. Omaha	cw	1	2	24	3	5	1	1		76	
Subtotals	0	2	7	107	19	9	5	1	0	334	12
NORTHERN THIRD											
17. NW Clayton County				118	1	2	1			35	4
18. Decorah				62	1		2			27	6
19. Bremer County			1	17		1				8	
20. Mason City				8	1	2	cw			29	
21. Worth County				3		1	1	1		10	
22. Spirit Lake				7		3	2			17	2
23. Cherokee			1	12		1	2			31	2
Subtotals	0	0	2	227	3	10	8	1	0	157	14
MIDDLE THIRD											
24. Lost Nation			1	42	3	1	1			59	1
25. North Linn				49			3		1	18	1
26. Cedar Rapids			1	50	1	2	4			58	2
27. Iowa City	1	cw	1	61	5	7	4	1		84	2
28. Amana				21	1		1			11	
29. Cedar Falls-Waterloo			4	23		1	2		3	22	
30. Eldora-Union				3						9	
31. Marshalltown				19			1			23	
32. Grinnell			1	1		2				5	
33. Ames			2	14	2	3	8			83	
34. Saylorville Reservoir			4	86	5	6	3			106	3
35. Des Moines			3	33		1	6			31	
36. Neal Smith NWR				16	4		3			24	
37. SE Webster County				11			2			14	
38. Boone County			1	38	cw	1	3	1		72	4
39. Jamaica			3	5	2	1	3			49	
40. Dallas County			2	22	2	2	2			43	1
41. Sac County			1	8						11	
42. Carroll County			1	28	6	3				23	
43. Ida County			2	2		1	1			30	1
Subtotals	1	0	27	532	31	31	47	2	4	775	15
SOUTHERN THIRD											
44. Van Buren County			1	5							
45. Wapello County	1		1	38						9	
46. Red Rock Reservoir	3		3	155	5	1	2			63	5
47. Rathbun Reservoir		24	5	90	12	1	1			27	
48. Lamoni				10	18	1	3		1	41	2
49. Union County				3	3	1	3		1	63	2
50. Taylor County			1	23	3		1			27	cw
51. Siam-Hopkins			2	5	11		1			26	2
52. Shenandoah			2	34	6	3	6			59	6
Subtotals	4	24	15	363	58	7	17	0	2	315	17
TOTALS	25	51	314	3333	125	75	103	4	9	2037	77

bu sp	Go Ea	Am Ke	Me	Pe Fa	Am Co	Ki	Wi Sn	Ri Bi Gu	He Gu	Ro Pi	Eu Co Do	Mo Do	Ea Sc Ow	Gr Ho Ow	Sn Ow	Ba Ow
2	I	18					I	443	22	444	8	26	9			4
		17						125	37	71		24	3	I		
		10						264	I	184		69		I		I
		20			10			265	2	328		118	13	8		5
		8				2	2	1329	138	130	3	341	9	11		7
		33						941	24	170	I	439	2	11		3
		23		I	3	2	I	2897	83	1384		763		10		14
		23				2		233	13	118		516	7	8		14
		39						101	8	50		597	10	8		6
		14					4	187	2	40		55	6	26		15
2	2	37						2640	7	656	4	231	I	3		2
		25			301	2		3646	191	685		142	2	4		I
2	2	267	0	I	314	8	8	13071	528	4260	16	3321	62	91	0	72
0	2	I	10	I						69	5		4	11		4
			13		12					441		13	I	I		2
		I	23	I				I		389	14	63	2	I		11
			14		4			43		672		64	3	I		5
0	2	60	2	0	16	0	0	44	0	1571	19	140	10	14	0	22
0	0	24				I	I			279			2			
		5								262		20	3	6		2
		8								126		21	3	2	I	2
		4	I		7					381		50	2	I		4
		2								125		43		2		
		5			238			I	9	71	5	11	3	3		
		8	I							225	12	I	4	2		
						I	I		9	1469	17	146	17	16	I	8
2	2	44								194		67	2	8		5
		17								43		I	9	4		3
		23		I	I	I		1631	6	380		565	I	2		7
		24				2	I	1047	2	186		804	2	7		7
		8						4		25		40				I
		7		I				10		487	3	311	2	3		4
		5								34						I
		12								180		13		I	I	
		I								4		4		I		
		22	I		8	I			cw	788	5	74	2	8		8
I	I	23	I			4	2	7450	560	277	8	133	12	51	I	16
		7	3	I	20			11000	20	657	35	827		2		2
		6						52	I	43		56				7
		7				2		I		52						I
		16					I	190	I	399	35	42	18	22		9
		9			2		I			28	3	24	5	6		7
		22								174	5	2	I	2	I	I
		4								32				I		
		5			7					49	24	41	3	3		
		17				2				228	32		I			
3	0	279	5	3	38	12	5	21385	590	4260	150	3004	58	121	3	79
I	I	2						3		7		4				
		8						300		350		11				
		15				3		13000	1000	33	13	19	I	3		
		45			5		2	903	50	69	I	18	5	13		4
		6					I			25	2	30	2	11		9
		42			58	2				45	7	4	2	9		3
		7	I							23	cw	I		I		
		6										16		I		
		20		I	19	2	I		I	60	24	92	2	21		17
		7	0	151	2	0	82	7	4	14206	1051	612	47	195	12	59
12	4	813	11	4	695	28	18	48707	2178	12172	249	6806	159	301	4	214

Table 2c. Christmas Bird Count Data, 2006–2007

Location	Lo Ea Ow	Sh Ea Ow	No S-w Ow	Be Ki	Re He Wo	Re Be Wo	Ye Be Sa	Do Wo	Ha Wo	No Fl	Pi Wo	Lo Sh
MISSISSIPPI RIVER												
1. Yellow River Forest				6	1	43		51	14	5	11	
2. SE Clayton County				4	2	42	2	43	6	5	3	
3. Dubuque				8		41		52	8	8	6	
4. Green Island	11			29	1	103	2	70	26	45	12	
5. Clinton		1		4		59	1	61	15	36	5	
6. Princeton	1			4	1	47		39	14	12	8	
7. Davenport				13	2	79	2	114	19	9	3	
8. Andalusia				7	5	80	2	122	29	21	13	
9. Muscatine		1		2	7	51	1	68	20	7	4	
10. West Mercer County				6	3	58	3	75	22	30	13	
11. Burlington				2	30	69	11	35	28	24	13	
12. Keokuk				17	1	45	2	54	8	20	8	
Subtotals	12	2	0	102	53	717	26	784	209	222	99	0
MISSOURI RIVER												
13. Westfield	7	2				31		42	14	34		
14. Sioux City				2		52		47	8	10		
15. De Soto NWR			1	2		51		82	8	165		
16. Omaha				7	1	152	1	122	22	85	cw	
Subtotals	7	2	1	11	1	286	1	293	52	294	0	0
NORTHERN THIRD												
17. NW Clayton County				5	1	54	1	80	8	3	3	
18. Decorah				5		41		48	9	8	2	
19. Bremer County				3	11	21		15	6	1		
20. Mason City	cw		1	2		17		57	21	1		
21. Worth County	1	1				7		18	5	1		
22. Spirit Lake				1		28		97	25	1		
23. Cherokee				1		12		15	5	20		
Subtotals	1	1	1	17	12	180	1	330	79	35	5	0
MIDDLE THIRD												
24. Lost Nation		1		5	2	71		108	12	37	5	
25. North Linn	2		1	7	1	46	1	63	16	14	2	
26. Cedar Rapids			1	11		64	1	79	26	10	3	
27. Iowa City	2	1		2	16	118		147	29	40	3	1
28. Amana			1	1	1	8		20	2	4	2	
29. Cedar Falls-Waterloo	2		1	5	2	32		65	12	10	2	
30. Eldora-Union				1	1	8		16	2		1	
31. Marshalltown				1		24		25	7			
32. Grinnell					1	9		10	1	2		
33. Ames				6	1	114	1	181	59	16		
34. Saylorville Reservoir	17		1	3	1	171	2	163	43	116		
35. Des Moines				6		57		65	14	32		
36. Neal Smith NWR		cw				20		29	4			
37. SE Webster County				2		9		9	1			
38. Boone County	11		1	8	7	204	3	204	120	56	8	
39. Jamaica	1			3	15	46		40	16	20		1
40. Dallas County	1	cw		1		46		38	15	15		
41. Sac County	1					14		19	18	1		
42. Carroll County	2			2		18		23	10	10		
43. Ida County	2					7	1	15	3	11		
Subtotals	41	2	6	64	48	1086	9	1319	410	394	26	2
SOUTHERN THIRD												
44. Van Buren County						4		6	2	2		
45. Wapello County				1		6		15		6		
46. Red Rock Reservoir				3		37	1	52	15	52		
47. Rathbun Reservoir	1		1	5		25		39	1	52		
48. Lamoni	2	cw		2	2	62		65	30	63	2	
49. Union County		1	1	2	5	7		9	8	25		2
50. Taylor County				1	4	28		28	13	45		1
51. Siam-Hopkins						12		13	3	36		
52. Shenandoah	1			1	2	76		52	25	25		1
Subtotals	4	1	2	15	13	257	1	279	97	306	2	4
TOTALS	65	8	10	209	127	2526	38	3005	847	1251	132	6

No Sh	Bl Ja	Am Cr	Ho La	Bl Ca Ch	Tu Ti	Re Br Nu	Wh Br Nu	Br Cr	Ca Wr	Wi Wr	Go Cr Ki	Ru Cr Ki	Ea Bl	He Th	Am Ro	No Mo
	99	261		203	33	9	103	8	2		6		11		6	
I	50	182		137	44	2	115	6	2	I			19		106	
	60	186		188	17	cw	96	6	6				18		897	
	94	321	13	205	32	I	100	8	10		6	I	97	3	181	4
I	96	127	25	209	44	2	135	11	11		10		46	3	48	
I	66	40	7	85	8	I	49	5	5		12		15	I	199	
	145	272	73	421	15	7	155	10	17	I	2	4	6		93	
	71	99	48	160	27		111	53	11	7	13		49	10	107	I
	76	260	3	199	57		100	4	14	I	2		48		148	
	103	57	10	153	27	2	115	5	13	2	9		22		130	
	98	123	7	117	39	2	66	6	27	I			120	I	189	I
	80	12000		142	40		74	5	31		5		53	I	13	
3	1038	13928	186	2219	383	26	1219	127	149	13	65	5	504	19	2117	6
2	22	70		50		7	42	3					27		390	
	49	179	3	106		6	82	2	2	2	3		7		191	
	66	244	34	206	8	3	107	2	2	I	14		83		95	
	52	216		364	34	I	229	13	22	I	4		54		354	
2	189	709	37	726	42	17	460	20	26	4	21	0	171	0	1030	0
	76	170	6	201	5	6	161	3	I				20		2	
2	109	437		168	34	11	87	I	I					3	5	
2	47	117		34		2	24	3							9	
I	116	4535		165		I	56	I							3	
I	49	122	I	35			14								I	
	49	48		201		5	110	8	I						I	
2	41	211	20	22		2	25	I							23	I
8	487	5640	27	826	39	27	477	17	3	0	0	0	20	3	44	I
	158	194	29	112	24	5	79	8	I		5		28	I	153	
	119	176	3	193	17	2	101	3	3		4		22	I	143	
	101	1827	3	331	21	4	108	6	2	I	I		4		14	
	173	532	32	268	55	2	123	3	7		I		51		96	
	20	12	4	35	11		13					I			60	
3	118	9485		166	I	5	48	2	3	2	I		5		33	
	28	46		17		I	17	I			I				2	
	90	90		15		I	15	I								
	6	3		8		I	9	2								
I	199	13100	2	398	9	6	195	19	10	3	I		3	I	51	
4	188	679		297	9	25	165	4	3	3	3	2	49	2	1044	
	90	10000		122	11	5	72	10	8	I	5		18		160	
	25	26	6	68			33	2			2		2		9	
	12	135		35		2	39		I						24	
	199	441	7	458	77	11	308	5	12	I	I		48		558	
	104	75	13	50	3	8	59	6	2	I			3		61	
	64	111	5	89	14	6	76	I	I				52	3	712	
	17	13		26			23	2							5	
	19	50		19	2	3	17	I		I			3		10	
2	56	25	8	6		2	12								16	
10	1786	37020	112	2713	254	89	1512	76	53	13	25	3	288	8	3151	0
	2	6		14	7		4				I		8		19	
	28	44		24	8		12						4		100	
I	73	81	3	123	6	3	37	7	6		9		24		118	
	197	236	44	75	14	I	44	3			11		57	I	54	
	84	254	20	160	17	2	98	23	6	3	22		67		657	4
I	50	223	I	19	3	2	5		I		2		45		1298	I
I	79	353		33		2	26	6	I		8	2	18		1430	I
	40	42	2	19			18	3			3		27		94	I
	200	34	33	39			110	I	5		12		15		760	2
3	753	1273	103	506	55	10	354	43	19	3	68	2	265	I	4530	9
26	4253	58570	465	6990	773	169	4022	283	250	33	179	10	1248	31	10872	16

Table 2d. Christmas Bird Count Data, 2006–2007

Location	Eu St	Ce Wa	Ye Ru Wa	Am Tr Sp	Fo Sp	So Sp	Sw Sp	Wh Th Sp	Ha Sp	Wh Cr Sp	Da Ey Ju
MISSISSIPPI RIVER											
1. Yellow River Forest	523	131		146	1	6					357
2. SE Clayton County	530	51		73		3		4		1	315
3. Dubuque	741	1		121		4		21			250
4. Green Island	2272	201	4	215	1	24	7	27		7	579
5. Clinton	4931	30		150		18	1	8		2	373
6. Princeton	2022	28		146	1	19	4	4		3	207
7. Davenport	4558	22		192	3	85	13	51		4	613
8. Andalusia	2575	79	5	207	4	44	55	88		8	773
9. Muscatine	2726	51		76		4	1	14			283
10. West Mercer County	1403	14		171	4	45	24	11			357
11. Burlington	2332	414		267	2	22	6	21		2	320
12. Keokuk	5448			118	1	37	14	71		1	349
Subtotals	30061	1022	9	1882	17	311	125	320	0	28	4776
MISSOURI RIVER											
13. Westfield	1498	678		89					6		235
14. Sioux City	3699	30		178		5			1		360
15. De Soto NWR	1960	97		484		10			51		910
16. Omaha	6502	165	2	441		17		5	39		755
Subtotals	13659	970	2	1192	0	32	0	5	97	0	2260
NORTHERN THIRD											
17. NW Clayton County	1180	32		213		6					551
18. Decorah	945	91	2	181		2		2			266
19. Bremer County	414	21		144		1					104
20. Mason City	1281	41	cw	99					1		432
21. Worth County	110			159							106
22. Spirit Lake	2962	6		27						1	146
23. Cherokee	930	76		7				1	2		230
Subtotals	7822	267	2	830	0	9	0	3	3	1	1835
MIDDLE THIRD											
24. Lost Nation	1659	19	1	149		18	1	22		2	375
25. North Linn	1400	72	1	54	2	7	1	41			341
26. Cedar Rapids	2898	194		135		8	3	12			475
27. Iowa City	1147	329	3	378	2	15		39		1	627
28. Amana	25			60		2	4				65
29. Cedar Falls-Waterloo	1349	44		351	1	8	1	3			304
30. Eldora-Union	77	26		19				3			60
31. Marshalltown	519			76							132
32. Grinnell	650	11		5							40
33. Ames	2026	22	1	470	1	9	1	7	2		948
34. Saylorville Reservoir	12162	172	3	1146	5	57	15	22	12	6	1009
35. Des Moines	800	8		96		8		24	4		343
36. Neal Smith NWR	152			219		8					40
37. SE Webster County	471	37		97		1	1		1		140
38. Boone County	3361	419	2	119	5	14	1	7			1243
39. Jamaica	566	36		221		10	3	2	4		274
40. Dallas County	691	25	1	235		2			1		152
41. Sac County	1330	50		30		1					54
42. Carroll County	304	43		62							59
43. Ida County	1419	27	1	77		2					400
Subtotals	33006	1534	13	3999	16	170	31	182	24	9	7081
SOUTHERN THIRD											
44. Van Buren County	14			13							
45. Wapello County	338	40		10							36
46. Red Rock Reservoir	1332	145		394		25	3	8			537
47. Rathbun Reservoir	316	129	4	237		31	5	24			264
48. Lamoni	492	186	1	953		25	1	6	2		1191
49. Union County	982	86		287	4	9	1	1	1		247
50. Taylor County	296	1222	7	442	1	7	2	4	5	1	594
51. Siam-Hopkins	424	40		259		5				1	421
52. Shenandoah	1885	250		1001	2	66	4	14	6	1	1058
Subtotals	6079	2098	12	3596	7	168	16	57	14	3	4348
TOTALS	90627	5891	38	11499	40	690	172	567	138	41	20300

La Lo	Sn Bu	No Ca	Re Wi Bl	me sp	Ru Bl	Br Bl	Co Gr	Br He Co	Pu Fi	Ho Fi	Pi Si	Am Go	Ho Sp	Eu Tr Sp
		77							7			133	407	
		35						105		82		119	319	
		150	153						2	98		119	250	
3	1	183	368		1		5	303	57	26	1	111	400	
2	3	177	697				2	412	4	37	1	112	471	
	4	117	45				1	301	1	37		156	572	1
2		363	459				4	66	8	62		192	934	
1		221	702				250	51	50	22	2	61	485	132
		171	3				1	106	11	36		98	501	66
		142	116				2	1		9	1	42	254	147
50		154	29				3	1	10	27	3	166	252	255
		256				1			1	14		91	269	101
58	8	2046	2572	0	1	1	268	1346	151	450	8	1400	5114	702
6		29							1	20	1	119	168	
		40	51				5			30		69	250	
2		148	21	60					1	13		216	293	
		258	250	25					6	63		216	775	
8	0	475	322	85	0	0	5	0	8	126	1	620	1486	0
250		130	63					1	15	3		83	559	
		113							2	13		71	168	
		42			1			6	5	6		24	349	
50	150	70			2		2		1	45		102	465	
155	2	11	40				1		8	8		11	123	
		26	271		69		3	7	14	58	2	26	508	
123		21							6	36		131	113	
578	152	413	374	0	72	0	6	14	51	169	2	448	2285	0
20		223	10				1		14	40		65	948	
2		173	2						4	28		103	1078	
		319	1					5	5	50	1	94	799	
	1	444	200				60	20	8	111	12	140	569	1
		23	100					50		2		32	30	
		248		1			1		12	87		53	1082	
		27							7	15		13	13	
		77					2			13		27	239	
		32								12		43	29	
1		289	204	3	9			3	3	87	1	166	764	
2	2	408	501		66	1	342	12	26	45		144	358	
		157					50		3	67		160	421	
		35	4248	16	13	34		18		9		38	152	
		54	20						10	20		27	42	
		298	132	4	16		1	2	14	41	1	480	715	
		98	9						20	65		109	266	
		42	516		8		2		5	61		109	461	
		25					50			9		18	125	
		37							11	16		47	89	
		42								46	2	59	395	
25	3	3051	5943	24	112	35	509	110	142	824	17	1927	8575	1
		8										12	1	
		30										16	20	
		172	6720			2	57	14	2	5		71	556	
		168	26				1		6	7		105	314	
1		204	2874	88	3	2	2	263	16	4		169	213	
36		21	1035	3	5		8	2	9	50		38	319	
		92	835		cw		6	cw	4	3		67	155	
		32	15	25						56		24	85	
		199	897	cw	cw		13		4	60		330	873	
37	0	926	12402	116	8	4	87	279	41	185	0	832	2536	0
706	163	6911	21613	225	193	40	875	1749	393	1754	28	5227	19996	703

Table 3. Species reported on three or fewer Christmas Bird Counts, 2006–2007

Species	Counts
Mute Swan	Keokuk (1)
Tundra Swan	Clinton (521), Rathbun (1)
Blue-winged Teal	Yellow River Forest (1)
Surf Scoter	Keokuk (1)
White-winged Scoter	Keokuk (1), Union County (2)
Black Scoter	Keokuk (1)
Long-tailed Duck	Keokuk (2), Spirit Lake (1), Red Rock (2)
duck species	Van Buren County (1)
Gray Partridge	Westfield (6), North Linn (1), Ames (7)
Ruffed Grouse	SE Clayton County (3), Decorah (1)
Horned Grebe	Keokuk (4)
Northern Goshawk	De Soto NWR (1), Cherokee (1)
falcon species	Omaha (1)
Bonaparte's Gull	Shenandoah (1)
Thayer's Gull	Saylorville (3)
Slaty-backed Gull	Omaha (1)
Glaucous Gull	Saylorville (1)
gull sp.	Neal Smith NWR (140)
owl species	Iowa City (2), Van Buren County (1), Lamoni (1)
shrike sp.	Shenandoah (1), Siam-Hopkins (1), Spirit Lake (1)
Black-billed Magpie	Westfield (7)
Marsh Wren	Sioux City (1), Red Rock (1)
Gray Catbird	Ames (1), Taylor County (1)
Brown Thrasher	Westfield (2), Ames (cw)
Ovenbird	Cedar Falls-Waterloo (1)
Spotted Towhee	NW Clayton County (1), Saylorville (2), Boone County (1)
Eastern Towhee	Andalusia (2), Saylorville (1)
towhee sp.	Jamaica (1)
Field Sparrow	Green Island (1), Muscatine (1), Cherokee (2)
Savannah Sparrow	Saylorville (2), Jamaica (1), Lamoni (1)
Lincoln's Sparrow	Ames (1)
sparrow sp.	Muscatine (1), Neal Smith NWR (13)
Eastern Meadowlark	Andalusia (1), Saylorville (1), Union County (1)
Western Meadowlark	Green Island (1), DeSoto (1), Lamoni (2)
Yellow-headed Blackbird	Spirit Lake (1)
Great-tailed Grackle	Spirit Lake (2), Des Moines (1)
Red Crossbill	Taylor County (1)
Common Redpoll	Andalusia (2), Sioux City (1), De Soto NWR (9)
Hoary Redpoll	Dallas County (1)

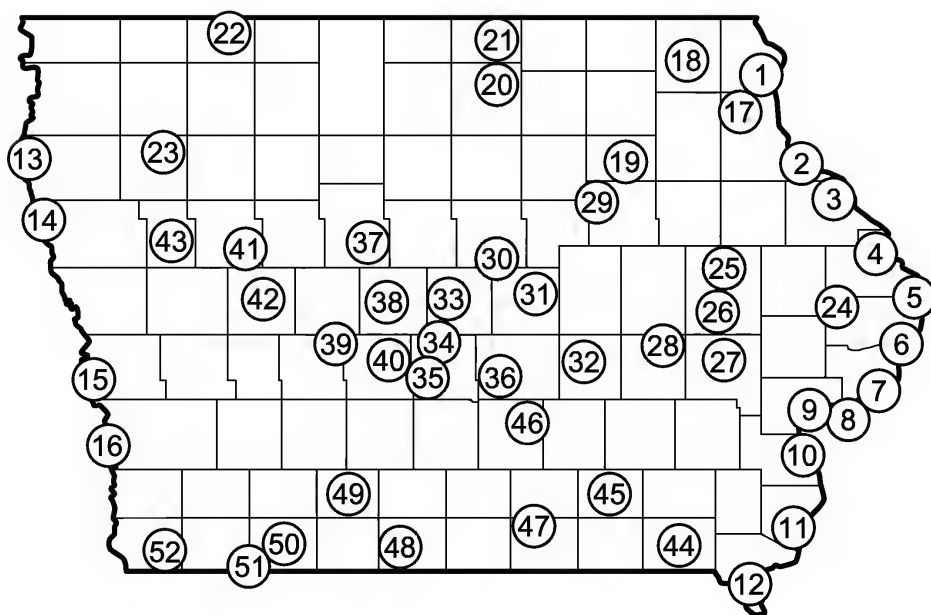


Figure 1. Christmas Bird Counts in Iowa, 2006–2007 (see tables).

Field Reports—Winter 2006–2007

Robert I. Cecil



Bob Cecil

WEATHER

There are few of us who didn't savor the guilty pleasure of basking in global warming, at least during December. At a balmy nine degrees above normal, it was the 13th warmest of 134 years of state records. Adding to the tropical ambience were those days when the temperature averaged at least 20 degrees above normal: the 14th, 16th, 28th, 29th, and 30th. Iowa hasn't enjoyed such a mild December since 1965. There was virtually no snowfall during the month even though precipitation, at 2.10 inches, made it the 12th wettest on record.

January started out like December with the first through the 12th averaging 14.3 degrees above normal and continuing a streak of 35 warmer than normal days. Temperatures then dropped to more normal levels. Among its remaining 12 days, somewhere in the state, temperatures were zero or below. The coldest temperature reports were from the 16th

at Spencer: -25 degrees and -38 degrees wind chill. Precipitation was normal with some caveats. Two storms produced the majority of the precipitation: one from the 13th to the 15th that left 4–6 inches of snow in the northwestern half of the state and ice over much of the rest, and another on the 20th and 21st that left 4–6 inches in all but the far northwest and southeast. Overall, it was the 23rd snowiest January in 120 years of reporting.

February was a great month to be somewhere other than Iowa. Not only were there no birds here, judging from the field reports—perhaps because the state had become a giant block of ice, but ice storms, mass power outages, and frigid cold made conditions miserable for all remaining life. Iowa had below normal temperatures for 16 of the month's first 18 days; and temperatures were more than 20 degrees below on five of those days. Decorah reported the lowest temperature of the month with -26 degrees on the fifth. Temperatures warmed up for a few days, including a maximum of 59 degrees at Keosauqua on 21 February, before moving back below normal for the final three days of the month. The month finished as the 14th coldest in 135 years of records, and the 15th wettest. It was the wet part that made things interesting. The first snow was on 6 February, followed by another less than a week later, and then, quickly, another, all adding up to the 10th snowiest February on record. The ice storm on the 23rd–26th was next, causing havoc in the northeast two-thirds of the state, and especially in central and east-central Iowa where ice accumulations reached two inches, all with the predictable effect on power lines and trees. State Climatologist Harry Hillaker contends that it was the state's most damaging ice storm in at least 40 years.

GENERAL TRENDS

The mild beginning of the season had the predictable effect on birds—some will always try to avoid major migration if they can. Ducks and geese offer the best examples but others such as Double-crested Cormorant, American White Pelican, Sandhill Crane, Marsh Wren, and Red-breasted Mergansers now seem to be more inclined to join the group. The cold weather of late January finally squeezed the last of the reluctant birds out of the state. Overall, it was a normal year for waterfowl and raptors except that Cooper's Hawks far outnumbered sharp-shinned. It was good for gulls, pretty good for sparrows, and awful for winter finches. All, however, had some notable contributions to the season's list. The last half of the season was snowy, generally, and began generating reports of field birds—besides, there wasn't a lot else to look at. Except for along the Mississippi R, neither birds nor birders were out in numbers. A brief respite on 20–21 February fired up some waterfowl hormones, drawing some into the state, but, except for a few Red-winged Blackbirds, this did not fool the icterids.

UNUSUAL SPECIES

Casual and accidental species reported included Harlequin Duck, Barrow's Goldeneye, Gyrfalcon, Iceland Gull, Slaty-backed Gull, Black-legged Kittiwake, first state record Red-breasted Sapsucker, Hoary Redpoll. Unusual species included Red-necked Grebe, Townsend's Solitaire, and Indigo Bunting.

SPECIES DATA

ALL caps = Casual or Accidental species. * = documented. County names are in italics. Full names of contributors are at the end of the article. Abbreviations used: **A** = area, **CBC** = Christmas Bird Count, **L&D** = lock and dam, **L** = lake, **m.ob.** = many observers, **M** = Marsh, **NA** = nature area. **P** = park, **Res** = Reservoir, **R** = river, **SF** = State Forest, **SP** = State Park, **WA** = wildlife area.

Greater White-fronted Goose: A few such as 40 on 10 Jan at Blackhawk Bottoms WMA *Des Moines* (JLF) and 104 on 11 Jan at Diamond L *Poweshiek* (MPr) were the last of the stragglers; 45 then appeared on 20 Feb in *Decatur* (BBa).

Snow Goose: Small numbers were noted from the western half of the state, the most being 200 on 9 Dec in *Lucas* (SJD) and 37 on 10 Jan in *Monona* (GLV). The last out, evidently, were 2 on 14 Jan in *Cerro Gordo* (CJF); the first back were 6 on 19 Feb in *Polk* (JG).

Ross's Goose: There were Dec reports of singles from *Decatur*, *Page*, *Poweshiek*, and *Johnson*. The last were 2 on 29 Dec in *Carroll* (SJD) and 1 on 4–8 Jan at Grinnell *Poweshiek* (MPr).

Cackling Goose: Among about 15 Dec reports, the only one in the eastern third of the state was of 100 on 17 Dec at Hawkeye WA *Johnson* (CJC); the most was 531 on 14 Dec at Rathbun Res *Appanoose* (RLC). An apparently injured single made it through the season at Mabaska Pond *Boone* (SJD) and another wintered at Saylorville Res (AB). Highest counts were 48 on 14 Jan at Saylorville Res *Polk* (AB) and 40 on 15 Jan at Ada Hayden P *Story* (WO). Hoping to return were one on 16 Feb in *Polk* (AB) and 25 on 20 Feb in *Decatur* (BBa).

Canada Goose: Peak post-CBC reports included 4,800 on 16 Jan at Maffitt Res *Dallas* (RIA/PHA), 2,864 on 20 Jan, and 2,373 on 3 Feb at Pool 19 *Lee* (SJD).

A hybrid Canada x Snow Goose was at Red Rock Res on 12 Dec (SJD).

Mute Swan: There were up to 7 in mid-Feb at L&D 14 *Scott* (SMF, CJC); another remained in *Lee* until at least 20 Jan (SJD).

Trumpeter Swan: There were 44 birds reported from ten locations, about half of the reporters mentioning birds with bands; none from the western third of the state. The highest count was 10 on 18 Feb at Saylorville Res (AB).

Tundra Swan: All: 22 on 12 Feb at LeClair *Scott* (DR).

Wood Duck: Four singles were reported through mid-Dec. There were no other reports until 10 Jan with 1 at Montrose *Lee* (JLF), followed by 3 on 13 Jan at Cedar L *Linn* (DP), at least 2 from mid-Jan through the season at various *Polk* locations (SJD, JG, AB), and 1 on 31 Jan in *Allamakee* (DK).

Gadwall: Highest counts after the CBC period were of 71 on 7 Jan in Des Moines (JG) and 38 on 30 Jan in *Allamakee* (DK). Possibly returning was 1 on 22 Feb in *Sac* (POR).

American Wigeon: Late winter reports included 1 on 22 Jan in *Cerro Gordo* (CJF), 1 on 30 Jan in *Allamakee* (DK), and 1 on 3 Feb at L&D 19 *Lee* (SJD).

American Black Duck: Consistent with recent years, the 17 reports of about 46 birds were rather evenly distributed through the season and the state. Aaron Brees noted American Black Duck x Mallard hybrids in *Polk* and *Wapello*.

Mallard: The largest flocks were in central IA, e.g., 1,175 on 4 Dec at Ada Hayden P *Story* (SJD) and up to 5,900 on 9–10 Jan (AB, JG) at Saylorville Res. Large mid-winter reports included 290 on 13 Jan at Charles City *Floyd* (SJD), 880 on 16 Jan at Maffitt Res (RIA/PHA), and 712 on 3 Feb on Pool 19 (SJD).

Northern Shoveler: There were 4 central IA reports of a few birds through the CBC period, all in *Polk* or *Story*. Then, there were 27 on 7 Jan at the pond on SE Maury in Des Moines (JG), 14 on 11 Jan in Grinnell *Poweshiek* (MPr), and up to 58 on 20 Jan–2 Feb at Ottumwa (SJD, AB). Returning migrants included 1 on 22 Feb at Chichacqua WA *Polk* (DK) and 1 on 25 Feb at L&D 14 (DR).

Northern Pintail: One stayed through at least 11 Feb at Port Neal *Woodbury* (POR). There were Jan reports of 1–3 birds from *Iowa*, *Story*, *Polk*, and *Fremont*; returning was 1 on 21 Feb at Cedar Lake in Cedar Rapids (DP).

Green-winged Teal: There were four reports of 1–3 birds from *Story*, *Polk*, *Appanoose*, and *Woodbury* through the CBC period; 1 stuck it out until 27 Jan below the dam at Saylorville Res (DTh). Returning were 1 on 21 Feb in *Woodbury* (POR) and 2 on 21 Feb at the Decorah trout hatchery *Winneshiekie* (DC).

Canvasback: It's difficult to outdo the 37,100 tallied on the Keokuk CBC; more than 10,000 were present on Pool 19 throughout much of the season (SJD). Peak counts among the few reports included 4 dwindling to 1 by 14 Dec in the Saylorville Res area (MPr, SJD), 5 on 9 Dec at Maffitt Res (JG), 8 on 29 Dec at Swan Lake SP *Carroll* (SJD), and 5 on 7 Jan at L Manawa *Pottawattamie* (LJP/BKP). Venturing northward were 8 on 18 Feb in *Scott* (CJC).

Redhead: Up to 6 stayed around northern *Polk* until 21 Jan (m.ob.) and about 25 remained at Pool 19 until the same time; other reports included 1 on 3 Jan at Grinnell (MPr) and 1 on 6 Jan at W Okoboji L *Dickinson* (LAS). Migrants were noted on 18 Feb in *Scott* (CJC) and 23 Feb in *Sac* (POR).

Ring-necked Duck: The Keokuk CBC

reported 2,144. Numbers there fluctuated after that, but there were 626 there on 3 Feb (SJD). At L&D 14, 38 wintered (DR). Mid-winter reports were limited to 2 on 4 Jan in *Poweshiek* (MPr) and 5 on 14 Jan at 2 locations in *Polk* (SJD). Returning were one on 23 Feb in *Sac* (POR) and 2 on 25 Feb at L Manawa (LJP/BKP).

Greater Scaup: As with the other divers, Pool 19 was the hotspot with 775 on 19 Dec and 833 on 3 Feb (SJD-details). Other reports included 1 on 9 Dec at Rathbun Res (RLC), 6 on 22 Dec–4 Jan at Red Rock Res (SJD, AB), 5 on 23 Dec at Twelve Mile L *Union* (SJD), 3 on 7 Jan at Saylorville Res (BE), and 101 on 22 Feb at L&D 14 (AB).

Lesser Scaup: Aside from the several hundred present periodically through much of the season at Pool 19 (SJD) and up to 8 wintering in *Polk* (AB), there were 10 other reports of 1–9 birds, the most northerly being 2 on 6 Jan in *Plymouth* (POR). Migrants were represented by 1 on 19 Feb in *Polk* (JHW), 125 on 22 Feb in *Scott* (AB), and 2 on 23 Feb in *Sac* (POR).

HARLEQUIN DUCK: Two cooperative and photogenic birds, an imm male and an ad/near ad male were first reported by Stan Bousson on 9 Feb and remained through the season at L&D 14 (DR, *SMF, *CRE, RIA/PHA-photo, Gerald White, Connie Johnson, m.ob.)

Surf Scoter: All: 1 on 18 Dec and 20 Jan at Pool 19 (SJD-details).

White-winged Scoter: All: 1 on 3 Dec at Pool 13 Clinton (DP), 1 on 18–19 Dec and 3 Feb on Pool 19 (SJD-details), and 2 on 23 Dec in *Union* (SJD).

Black Scoter: All: 2 on 18–19 Dec and 1 on 20 Jan at Pool 19 (SJD-details).

Long-tailed Duck: All: 1 on 1–5 Dec at Saylorville Res (AB, DTh), 1 on 13–16 Dec, 4 on 22 Dec at Red Rock Res (AB, SJD,

JB), a peak of 8 on 20 Jan at Pool 19 (SJD), and 1 on 24 Jan–22 Feb at L&D 14 (AB).

Bufflehead: Post CBC reports included 6 on 6 Jan at W Okoboji L (LAS), 1 on 14 Jan at the Johnston gravel pits *Polk* (SJD), and a peak of 37 on 20 Jan at Pool 19 (SJD). There were no reports from 3 Feb until 20–21 Feb when migrants began appearing with 1 on Pool 14 (DR, BSc); another was at L Manawa on 25 Feb (LJP/BKP).

Common Goldeneye: Almost all reports ranged from the several hundred at the major reservoirs to the several thousand along the Mississippi R, remaining as long as there was open water. Exceptions included 4 on 1 Jan at Silver L *Worth* (CJF), 1 on 5 Feb in *Cerro Gordo* (CJF), and 1 on 26–27 Feb at Cedar L *Linn* (DP). One on 20 Jan at Ft. Madison *Lee* and another on Pool 19 were hybrid Common Goldeneye x Hooded Mergansers (SJD).

BARROW'S GOLDENEYE: One was briefly present on 11 Jan at a *Decatur* pond (*NJM, *BBa, *JRL).

Hooded Merganser: Mid-winter reports included one until 12 Jan at Port Neal Ponds (POR), 1 or 2 until mid-Feb in *Polk* (AB, SJD), up to 26 on 20 Jan at Pool 19 (SJD), 24 on 25 Jan at Cedar L (DLF), and 1 on 14 Feb at Credit Island (WMZ). A few migrants trickled in during the last days of the season. A Hooded Merganser x Common Merganser was found on 22 Feb in *Scott* (AB).

Common Merganser: The usual thousands on the major reservoirs peaked with 14,000 on 13 Dec at Red Rock (AB) and 5,300 on 17 Dec at Saylorville Res (SJD). Scattered small numbers persisted until early Feb; migrants made it to northwest IA by 23 Feb, e.g., 59 in *Sac* (POR).

Red-breasted Merganser: All: 1 on 3 Dec at Davenport (DP), 1 on 13 Dec at Red Rock Res (AB) and 2 there on 4 Jan (SJD),

1 on 7 Jan at Ada Hayden P (WO), 2 on 8 Jan at Saylorville Res (AB), 2 on 11–12 Jan in *Decatur* (JRL, NJM, BBa), 4 on 14 Jan at the Johnston gravel pits (SJD), a peak of 7 on 3 Feb at Pool 19 (SJD), and 2 on 22 Feb at L&D 14 (AB). Normally rare in Dec and absent in mid-winter, this was a remarkable season.

Ruddy Duck: Steve Dinsmore tabulated numbers at Pool 19, from 423 on the Keokuk CBC to 31 on 20 Jan to 5 on 3 Feb; 26 were also reported there on 10 Jan (JLF). The only other reports were singles from mid-Dec (WMZ) and late Feb (AB) in *Scott*.

Gray Partridge: From 2–26 were reported from *Grundy*, *Boone*, *Clay*, *Cerro Gordo*, *Polk*, and *Worth*. The top counts came from *Boone* (LGD, SSP).

Ring-necked Pheasant: There were 86 on 23 Jan in *Fremont* (KDy).

Ruffed Grouse: Still hanging on was one on 20 Jan at the Whitebreast Unit of Stephens SF (JS).

Northern Bobwhite: At the edge of this species' receding range were 6 on 22 Dec in *Scott* (DR). The remaining 4 reports were from *Page*, *Decatur*, and *Madison*.

Common Loon: One on 18 Dec in *Ap-panoose* was the only report (RLC).

Pied-billed Grebe: There were two through the season at Cedar L in an area of artificially heated water (BSc). Dec reports of 1 or 2 birds were from Saylorville Res, Rathbun Res, and L Manawa; the only mid-winter reports were of 5 on 20 Jan and 2 on 3 Feb at Pool 19 (SJD).

Horned Grebe: All: 4 on 1 Jan at Saylorville Res (AB), 4 on Dec 18–19 at Pool 19 (*SJD-photo), and 1 on 26–27 Jan at Cedar L (DP, BSc).

Red-necked Grebe: All: 1 on 5 Dec at Red Rock Res (JF).

American White Pelican: The peak

count was of 20 on the Keokuk CBC; other reports included 2 on 1–9 Dec at Coralville Res (JLF), 3 on 2 Dec at Saylorville Res (JG), 4 on 16 Dec at Red Rock Res (SJD), 2 on 20 Jan at Ottumwa (SJD), one on 24 Jan at Waterworks Park in Iowa City (JLF), and 3 on 3 Feb at L&D 19 (SJD).

Double-crested Cormorant: About 14 were reported from 8 southern IA counties during Dec. Unusual mid-winter reports included 4 on 3–10 Jan at Pool 19 (JLF) and 2 there on 20 Jan (SJD); also one on 5 Feb in *Scott* (WMZ). Returning, presumably, were 17 on 12–22 Feb at Pool 14 (DR).

Great Blue Heron: Unusual were 30 on 16 Jan and 24 on 5 Feb at Credit Island *Scott* (WMZ), 1 on 9 Feb at the Decorah trout hatchery *Winnesick* (DeC), and 1 on 9 Feb in *Polk* (DK). Small numbers of migrants appeared on 21–22 Feb.

Black-crowned Night-Heron: A ninth consecutive year at Cedar L was not to be, and there were no other reports.

Turkey Vulture: Early birds included singles on 23 Feb in *Decatur* (JRL) and 24 Feb in *Page* (KDy).

Bald Eagle: This species is now present through much of the state during the winter season. The big counts this year were 95 on 2 Dec at Red Rock Res (JG), 65 on 28 Jan on the Cedar R in Cedar Rapids (DLF), and 503 on 3 Feb on Pool 19 (SJD). Pairs were noted occupying nests throughout the season in *Page* and *Winnesick* (DKy, DeC).

Northern Harrier: The high counts included 5 through much of the period at Owego Wetlands *Woodbury* where females outnumbered males 3 to 1 (POR), 9 on 3 Jan in *Decatur* (NJM), and 9 on 12 Jan at Riverton WA *Fremont* (KDy); there were also 7 reports of 3 birds. With the exception of 1 on 20 Jan in *Howard* (DeC), there were no reports from the northern third of the state.

Sharp-shinned Hawk: There were a dozen or so reports of 1 or 2 birds, with none from the northern third of the state and about half from feeders. Ann Johnson noted that they were scarcer this season than Cooper's Hawk.

Cooper's Hawk: Among about 30 reports of 1 or 2 birds, the only ones from the northern third of the state were 1 on 4 Feb in Ed Thelen's *Dickinson* yard and 2 through the season in *Winneshiek* in north-eastern IA, where Dennis Carter observes that they are now expected in winter. Mark Proescholdt, meticulous reporter of winter accipiters, saw 2 sharp-shinneds and 6 Cooper's during the season. It was also a record year for this species on the CBCs.

Northern Goshawk: All: 1 on 21 Dec in *Decatur* (BBa-details), 1 on 17 Dec in *Cherokee* (LAS), 1 on 1 Jan in *Taylor* (KDN), 1 on 11 Jan in *O'Brien* (LAS), and 1 on 17–24 Jan in *Decatur* (BBa, JNM).

Red-shouldered Hawk: All: 1 on 23 Dec in *Linn* (DLF), 1 on 20 Jan at Ledges SP *Boone* (NAO-details), 1 on 20 Jan at George Wyth SP *Black Hawk* (WO), 1 on 20 Jan at Stephen's SF *Lucas* (JS), and 1 on 15 Feb at Lake Ahquabi SP *Warren* (JS).

Red-tailed Hawk: There were five Harlan's reported as well as 3 rufous morph birds; perhaps coincidently, the Harlan's appeared earlier.

Rough-legged Hawk: Peak counts included 4 on 6 Jan in *O'Brien* (LAS), 5 on 31 Jan in *Winneshiek* (DK), and 3 on 17 Feb in *Boone* (LGD). There were 26 other reports, pretty much consistent with recent years.

Golden Eagle: All: 1 on 25 Dec in *Taylor* (KDN), one on 31 Jan in *Allamakee* (DK), 1 on 3 Feb in *Warren* (JS), and 1 on 23–25 Feb in *Decatur* (JRL, BBa, JNM).

Merlin: The peak count at Glendale Cem in Des Moines was 7 (5 Tiaga, 2 Prairie) on 25 Jan (JG), at least 4 were present

through the season (RCe). There were about 17 other reports; of those noting race, there were 4 Taigas and 2 Prairies.

GYRFALCON: Generating lots of discussion on the IA-Birds listserv but accepted by the Records Committee was 1 found by Jeff Nichols and present from 28 Jan–5 Feb in Boone Co. (RIA-photo, *PIA, *JB, *GW).

Peregrine Falcon: Pairs wintered in Des Moines, Davenport, and Cedar Rapids; other reports included 1 on 24 Dec in *Story* (HZ) and 1 on 26 Dec in *Decatur* (BBa-details).

Prairie Falcon: All: 1 through the period at the Loess Hills in *Woodbury* (POR), 1 on 10 Dec in *Story* (JHW), 1 on 23 Jan in *Fremont* (KDY), and 1 on 27 Feb in *Decatur* (NJM-details).

American Coot: Mid-winter reports included 40 on 10 Jan at Pool 19 (SJD), 21 on 14 Jan and 5 on 21 Jan at the Johnston gravel pits (SJD, BE), 2 on 16 Jan at Ada Hayden P (WO), and 1 on 2 Feb at Cedar L (DLF). Singles on 12–27 Feb at Pool 14 (DR), 18 Feb below the dam at Saylorville Res (DK), and 27 Feb at Cedar L (DP) were probably migrants.

Sandhill Crane: All: 1 on 2 Jan in *Cherokee* (DB), 1 on 13 Jan in *Floyd* (SJD, JG), 5 on 2–23 Feb in *O'Brien* (DK fide Richard Frerk, LAS), 1 on 11 Feb in *Polk* (SJD), and 5 on 22 Feb at Sandhill L *Woodbury* (POR).

Killdeer: Up to 4 stayed through mid-Feb at the Polk City WA *Polk* (SJD, JG, RIA/PHA), other mid-winter reports included 1 on 20 Jan–3 Feb at Montrose *Lee* (SJD), 1 at Seven Seas sod farm in *Scott* (WMZ), and 1 on 9 Feb in Decorah (DeC). A single on 23 Feb in *Decatur* was a migrant (JRL).

Wilson's Snipe: Post-CBC reports included 1 on 10 Jan at Montrose (JLF), 1 on 17 Jan at Springbrook SP *Guthrie*

(RIA/PHA), 1 on 10 Feb at Lost Grove Lake WMA *Scott* (DR), and 1 on 15 Feb in *Cedar* (CRE).

Ring-billed Gull: There were 13,500 on 6 Jan and 4,400 on 14 Jan at Saylorville Res (SJD). Smaller venues included 1 on 4 Jan at Ada Hayden P (WO), 30 on 7 Jan at Lake Manawa SP (LJP/BKP), and 2 on 10 Jan in *Boone* (SJD). There were no reports after the 19 on 3 Feb at Pool 19 (SJD).

Herring Gull: At the major reservoirs, the peak counts were 1,435 on 22 Dec at Red Rock (SJD) and 1,290 on 6 Jan at Saylorville (SJD). Other reports included one on 11 Dec at Shen sand pits *Page* (KDY), one on 7 Jan at L Manawa (LJP/BKP), and 185 lingering until 3 Feb at Pool 19 (SJD). There were no more reports until 4 migrants appeared on 24 Feb at Lake Ahquabi SP (JS).

Thayer's Gull: There were multiple reports of 1–7 birds, although some from central IA probably overlap. Peak counts include at least 6 on 5 Dec–4 Jan at Saylorville Res (AB), 7 on 22 Dec at Red Rock Res (SJD), at least 3 on 10 Jan through the period in *Scott* (SMF, DR), and 4 on 14 Jan in Des Moines (SJD). A single remained from 25 Jan–17 Feb at Cedar L (BSc, DP). Adults outnumbered first year birds about 16 to 7; only a few of other plumages were noted.

ICELAND GULL: All: One 2nd winter bird was present from 16 Jan through the period at L&D 15 (*SMF-photo) and a juv. on 3 Feb at L&D 19 (SJD-photo).

Lesser Black-backed Gull: At Saylorville Res there were 2 on 5 Dec (SJD, AB), 6 on 6 Jan (SJD, JG), 4 on 14 Jan (SJD, JG), and 1 on 21 Jan (BE). Other reports included at least 3 during the season at *Scott* (SMF, DR), one on 12 Dec at Cedar L (DP), one on 15 Jan at Red Rock Res (AB), and

one or 2 on 20 Jan and 3 Feb in *Lee* (SJD). There was a good mix of ages.

SLATY-BACKED GULL: An ad on 17–23 Dec at Lake Manawa SP provided a second state record (LJP/BKP, AB-photo, JG-photo, *AMJ-photo)

Glaucous Gull: All: At least 1 juv on 12 Dec–4 Jan at Saylorville Res (SJD, AB), a second or third winter on 26 Jan–21 Feb at Cedar L (BSc, DP), an ad on 3 Feb at Hall Towing in Ft. Madison (SJD), and a 1st winter on 25 Feb through the period at L&D 14 (SMF, DR).

BLACK-LEGGED KITTIWAKE: A juv was discovered and photographed on 1 Dec (*JG-photo) and remained until 14 Jan at Saylorville Res (AB, SJD m.ob)

Eurasian Collared-Dove: From one to 35 were reported from *Marshall, Lee, Hardin, Story, Boone, Warren, Harrison, Plymouth, Howard, Linn, Jefferson, Benton, Linn, Winneshiek, Poweshiek, Decatur, and Polk*. It was also a record-breaking year for the CBCs.

Barn Owl: A CBC report was referred to the Records Committee.

Eastern Screech-Owl: This species is not actively sought after the CBC period so there are few reports.

Snowy Owl: All: singles on 6 Dec in *Carroll* (SJD), 13 Dec near McCallsburg *Story* (Andy Swanson fide HZ), 15–18 Dec in *Dallas* (TL), 17 Dec in *Des Moines* (JOn), 17 Dec in *Polk* and possibly road-killed on 23 Dec (SJD), 20 Dec in *Kossuth* (MCK), 21–27 Dec in *Story* (SJD, AB, JG, WO), 23–26 Dec in *Clay* (LAS, JPK), 1 Feb in *Fremont* that made the front page of the *Shenandoah Valley News* (Sandra Harvey fide HZ), and 22 Feb in *Dickinson* (ET).

Long-eared Owl: Of 16 reports, the most northerly by a ways was one on 9 Dec at Lime Creek Nature Center *Cerro Gordo* (CJF) and the most were 3 on 3 Dec at Dun-

bar Sl *Greene* (LGD), 6 on 18 Dec in *Boone* (KRW), 11 on 30 Dec in *Story* (WO), and 6 on 6 Dec in *Plymouth* (BFH).

Short-eared Owl: High counts were 5 on 1 Jan at Green Bay Bottoms *Lee* (JWR-details), 6 at Chicahqua WA *Polk* (DK), up to 14 in mid-Jan at Owego Wetlands (POR, GLV). There were about 16 other reports of one to 3 birds—overall, an excellent showing.

Northern Saw-Whet Owl: There were about 11 reports between 16 Dec and 3 Feb, the most being 2 on 28 Jan through the period at Hooper WA *Warren* (JS, KDy). The most southerly was one on the Union County CBC. Overall, it was a little above average year.

Belted Kingfisher: There were several mid-winter reports; this species will winter wherever there is a food supply, e.g., 1 on 1 Feb at the Decorah trout hatchery (DeC).

Red-headed Woodpecker: A surprising 15 wintered at Lake Ahquabi SP (JS); there were about 12 other records of one to 3 birds throughout the period, all from the southern half of the state. Observers are encouraged to continue reporting this species.

RED-BREASTED SAPSUCKER: A first state record bird was convincingly photographed on 4 Dec just north of Council Bluffs *Pottawattamie* (AP-photo)

Yellow-bellied Sapsucker: Mid-winter reports were from *Des Moines*, *Linn*, *Decatur*, *Story*, *Jefferson*, and *Warren*.

Northern Flicker: One on the Taylor Co. CBC was the red-shafted form (KDN).

Pileated Woodpecker: There were about 22 reports of one or 2 birds. Pushing the edge was of their IA range were 2 on 13 Jan at Pinicon Alders WA *Mitchell* (JG, SJD) and up to 3 throughout the season in *Decatur* (NJM, JRL).

Loggerhead Shrike: All: singles on

19 Dec in *Van Buren* (SJD), 23 Dec in *Union* (SJD), 30 Dec in *Taylor* (KDN), 16 Jan in *Page*, and 18 Jan–5 Feb in *Fremont* (KDy).

Northern Shrike: With some 25 reports, birds were found throughout the season and the state. Winter numbers have remained rather consistent for the past several years.

Black-billed Magpie: There were 7 on 6 Jan at the usual Broken Kettle Grassland *Plymouth* location (GLV, POR). This seems to represent an increase in numbers over previous years.

Horned Lark: The biggest flocks were 178 on 14 Jan in *Woodbury* (BFH), 285 on 24 Jan in *Hamilton* (SSP), 437 on 24 Jan in *Boone* (SSP), and 254 on 25 Jan in *Webster* (SSP).

Tufted Titmouse: At the edge of their range were 4 on 22 Feb at Emma McCarthy Lee P *Story* (SSP) and 3 on 25 Feb at Sparks Cemetery *Boone* (LGD).

Red-breasted Nuthatch: Dennis Thompson reported a flock of 15 on 1 Dec in the pines near the Polk City Casey's. There were about 20 other reports of 1–4 birds well distributed around the state and throughout the season.

Brown Creeper: There were many reports from throughout the season, mostly in the southern half of the state. Peak counts were 4 on 31 Dec at Lake of Three Fires SP *Taylor* (KDN) and 5 on 20 Feb at Hampton Cem *Franklin* (SSP).

Carolina Wren: There were about 15 reports after the CBC period, most of 1 or 2 birds but 6 on 10 Jan in *Des Moines* (JLF) and 7 on 24 Jan in *Decatur* (NJM). Well north were singles on 26 Jan in *Algona* (MCK) and wintering in *Mason City* (PH). Reports declined in Feb—this species is vulnerable to ice cover so it will be interesting to see if populations were adversely affected.

Winter Wren: Post-CBC reports included one on 11 Jan at Woodland Mounds Warren (JS), a peak of 3 on 24 Jan in *Decatur* (NJM), and one on 16–27 Feb at River-ton WA *Fremont* (POR).

Marsh Wren: Birds were reported from the Red Rock and Sioux City CBCs.

Golden-crowned Kinglet: Mid-winter reports included 6 on 6–25 Jan in *Decatur* (JRL, NJM, BBa), 2 on 14 Jan at Hooper WA (JG), 1 on 17 Jan at Matsell Bridge WA Linn (BSc), and 4 on 28 Jan at Hooper WA (KDy).

Ruby-crowned Kinglet: There were reports from the Saylorville and Taylor County CBCs.

Eastern Bluebird: As expected, several reports of small flocks, all from the southern half of the state except for 8 on 20 Jan at Decorah (DeC). High counts included 20 on 8 Feb in *Boone* (JHW) and 78 on 15 Feb in *Decatur* (NJM).

Townsend's Solitaire: All: 1 on 2–23 Jan in *Decatur* (*NJM, *BBa, *JRL), 1 on 6–28 Jan at Waterman Twp O'Brien (LAS), 1 on 11–20 Jan at Hawkeye WA *Johnson* (DP, CRE, CJC), and 1 on 31 Jan in *Allamakee* (DK).

Hermit Thrush: Once again, Warren was the hotspot with 4 on 18 Feb at Lake Ahquabi SP (JS). Other post-CBC reports were from Linn, *Polk* (3), and *Marion*.

American Robin: Dozens of reports from around the state represented a huge increase over recent years and they were also found in record numbers on the CBCs. Some of the bigger counts included 1,100 on 5 Jan at Chichaqua WA *Polk* (DK), 1,500 on 5 Jan in on 5 Jan in *Decatur* (BBa), up to 3,600 on 10–15 in *Boone* (SJD, LGD)—a single even toughed it out in Mason City (CJF). Of the large winter flocks noted by Jim Sinclair in central IA, between 10 to 15% of the birds were females.

Varied Thrush: All: 1 on 6–28 Feb in Mason City (PH, CJF) and 1 on 27–28 Feb in Sioux City (BFH, POR).

Gray Catbird: One was reported on 30 Dec at Lake of Three Fires SP *Taylor*; 1 was also found at this location last winter (KDN).

Northern Mockingbird: There were eight reports, about double the average of recent years. Noteworthy were 2 on 12 Dec–28 Jan in the Waterman Prairie Complex *Cherokee* in northwest IA (LAS) and 1 on 12 Jan at Cresco *Howard* in northeast IA (EB). Other reports were of 1 or 2 birds from *Des Moines*, *Taylor*, *Union*, *Appanoose*, and *Madison*—the exception was 6 on 1 Jan in *Decatur* (JRL).

Brown Thrasher: All: 1 through the period at an Ames feeder (Erv Klaas fide SJD) (see article in this issue) and 1 on 12 Dec at the Shenandoah sand pits *Page* (KDy).

Cedar Waxwing: The biggest flocks were in the west: 400 on 24 Dec in *Fremont* (KDy) and 615 on 6 Jan in *Plymouth* (GLV). Other large counts included 100 on 22 Feb in *Poweshiek* (MPr) and 120 on 27 Feb in *Polk* (AB).

Yellow-rumped Warbler: Peak counts were 3 on 16–17 Dec at Hawkeye WA (MHB) and 7 on the Taylor Co. CBC. Reports after the CBC period included 1 on 8 Jan at Easter L in Des Moines (BN), 2 on 19 Jan at Pleasant Creek Recreation Area Linn (MHB), and 1 on 28 Jan at Lake Ahquabi SP (KDy).

Ovenbird: Highly unusual was one on the Cedar Falls-Waterloo CBC. This would be Iowa's third report in 4 years.

Spotted Towhee: All: 1 on 5–17 Dec at Big Creek SP *Polk* (SJD), 4 on 10 Feb at Riverton WA and 1 on 11 Feb at Wau-bonsie SP *Fremont* (DKy), and 1 on 11 Feb through the period at Camp Hantesa *Boone* (JHW, RIA/PHA, SSP).

Eastern Towhee: All: 1 on 20 Jan in *Pottawattamie* (POR), and 1 then 2 on 3 and 10 Feb at Riverton WA (POR, KDy).

Chipping Sparrow: All: 1 on 21 Jan through the period in Urbandale *Polk* (BE-details).

Savannah Sparrow: Unusual was 1 on 25 Feb in *Boone* (*LGD-photo).

Fox Sparrow: There were about 13 reports from Jan and Feb, remarkable in that there are typically 2 or 3. The most northerly were 1 on 24 Jan at Briggs Woods P *Hamilton* (SSP) and 1 on 6–16 Feb in *Woodbury* at Jerry Probst's feeders (POR, BFH); other reports came from *Boone*, *Decatur*, *Linn*, *Warren*, *Fremont*, and *Scott*.

Song Sparrow: Jan and Feb reports from the northern half of IA included 1 on 1 Jan in *Ida* (POR), 3 on 24 Jan in *Hamilton* (SSP), 1 on 25 Jan in *Webster* (SSP), 1 on 18 Feb at Mason City (CJF), and 1 on 20 Feb in *Franklin* (SSP).

Lincoln's Sparrow: One was reported on 1 Jan in *Taylor* (KDN).

Swamp Sparrow: Mid-winter reports included 2 on 19 Jan in South Sycamore Bottoms *Johnson* (MHB), 3 on 25 Jan at Ahquabi SP (JS), 1 on 28 Jan at Brown's L *Woodbury* (BFH), and 1 on 29 Jan–3 Feb at Riverton WA (KDy, POR). Four birds on 16 Feb at Riverton WA (KDy) may have been migrants.

White-throated Sparrow: Story Co. was the hotspot: up to 6 on 23 Jan on the ISU campus (LGD) and 4 wintering in Ames—there were three after 29 Jan (SSP). Two also wintered in *Linn* (DLF). There were 4 mid-winter reports of 1–4 birds from southern IA; the most northerly report was of one on 20 Jan at Grammer Grove WA *Marshall* (MP).

Harris's Sparrow: The most easterly was 1 on 16 Dec–17 Jan in Ames (SSP) and 1 on 1 Jan at Jester P *Polk* (BE). Peak

counts were 9 on 20 Jan in *Pottawattamie* (POR) and 39 on 10 Feb in *Fremont* (KDy).

White-crowned Sparrow: There were only three reports outside of CBCs: 1 on 16 Jan in Fairfield *Jefferson* (DCP), 2 on 28 Jan in *Polk* (POR), and 1 on 5 Feb in *Decatur* (JRL).

Dark-eyed Junco: "Oregon" Juncos reports included 2 on 14–20 Jan in Mason City (CJF), 1 on 21 Jan through the period on Ames (SSP, KLP), 1 on 15–18 Feb in Sioux Center (JVD), and 1 on 28 Feb in *Polk* (AB).

Lapland Longspur: Generally consistent with recent years, there were 16 reports from throughout the season and the state. High counts were 70 on 1 Jan in *Winneshiek* DeC fide Larry Reis), 150 on 17 Jan in *Dallas* (TL), 56 on 20 Jan in *Pottawattamie* (POR), 79 on 24 Jan in *Boone* (SSP), and 50 on 25 Jan in *Webster* (SSP).

Snow Bunting: There were 10 on 16 Jan and 28 on 1 Feb in *Winneshiek* (Larry Reis fide DeC, DK); the other reports were of singles in *Hardin*, *Johnson*, and *Scott*.

Indigo Bunting: Unprecedented was a juvenile male on 31 Dec in Ames (*Steve Maloy-photo, SJD-photo).

Red-winged Blackbird: The most was 3,936 on 16 Dec at Red Rock CBC. Among post CBC reports, the highest counts were from 24 Jan: 120 in *Boone* and 330 in *Hamilton* (SSP). The most northerly report was one on 27 Jan in Mason City (CJF)—migrants began returning to *Decatur* on 26 Feb (BBa).

Eastern Meadowlark: One was identified by call notes on 23 Dec in *Union* (SJD) and 1 was identified by song on 22 Feb in *Decatur* (BBa).

Western Meadowlark: There were numerous mid-winter reports, about half identified as westerns and about half classi-

fied as species. Noteworthy reports of probable westerns included 12 on 20 Jan in *Pottawattamie* (POR), 48 on 20 Jan in *Fremont* (KDY), 20 on 24 Jan in *Boone* (SSP), 21 on 25 Jan in *Decatur* (BBa), and 23 on 19 Feb in *Woodbury* (GLV).

Rusty Blackbird: High counts included 89 on 21 Dec at Big Creek SP (AB), 150 on 19 Jan near Bjorkboda M *Hamilton* (JHW), 35 on 24 Jan in *Boone* (SSP), and up to 9 on 31 Jan–5 Feb in *Decatur* (JRL, NJM).

Brewer's Blackbird: All: 3 on 3 Dec in *Warren* (AB) and up to 12 (11 males, one fem) on 19 Jan–4 Feb in *Decatur* (BBa-de-tails).

Common Grackle: There were 3 at Carolyn Fischer's feeder on 14 Jan and 1 there on 24 Jan; other mid-winter reports were singles: 5 Jan in Des Moines (BE), 12 Jan in *Fremont* (KDY), 27 Jan in *Boone* (POR), and 27 Jan in *Polk* (POR).

Great-tailed Grackle: All: 20 on 15 Feb in *Warren* (AMJ).

Brown-headed Cowbird: The last were 1 on 12 Jan in *Fremont* (KDY) and 1 on 28 Jan in *Dallas* (BE).

Purple Finch: There were about 15 reports throughout the season, almost all of 1–4 birds. Exceptions included 6 on 9 Dec in *Polk* (JB), 15 on 7 Jan in *Decatur* (BBa),

16 on 31 Jan in *Winneshieik* (DK), and 12 on 28 Feb in *Boone* (JHW).

House Finch: There were 120 on 2 Dec in *Delaware* (BSc).

Red Crossbill: All: 1 on the Taylor Co. CBC and 4 on 4 Jan at Cedar Rapids (BSc).

Common Redpoll: All: Three on 15 Jan–10 Feb in Ann Johnson's rural Norwalk yard (AMJ, JG, RIA/PHA), 2 on 5 Feb in *Decatur* (JRL), and 1 on 16–19 Feb in *Woodbury* (POR, BFH).

HOARY REDPOLL: A single on 16 Dec–19 Feb feeding on alder trees at the Brenton Arboretum was seen and photographed by many (*TL, RIA-photo, *PHA, *CJC, *CRE, *PH-photo, *AMJ)

Pine Siskin: All: 1 on 2 Dec at Bailey's Ford Park *Delaware* (BSc), a peak of 5 between 26 Dec–21 Feb at Camp Hantesa *Boone* (JHW, JVD), 10 on 27 Dec–31 Jan at Fairmount Cem Davenport and 7 there on 1–25 Feb (WMZ), 20 on 23 Jan–28 Feb at Sioux Center *Sioux* (JVD), one on 16 Feb in *Decatur* (NJM), and 1 on 25 Feb in Ames (SSP, KLP).

Eurasian Tree Sparrow: A single on 16 Jan in Fairfield is the first for *Jefferson* (DCP), and provides evidence that the species may be moving west in the state. A similar westward movement may be occurring in Missouri.

COMMENT

A very small number of reports were lost due to entry errors and a similarly small number were clarified after e-mails or other sleuthing. Be sure to double-check your entries to make sure they arrive to us as intended.

A total of 73 observers submitted 1,604 reports; this compares, for example, with 47 observers during the 2001–2002 and 39 during the 2002–2003 seasons. Clearly, the advent of the IA-Birds listserv and Ann Johnson's remarkably user-friendly data entry program has been indispensable in increasing our reporting and consequently our knowledge of Iowa's birds. But, of course, it is you the observer who make this all meaningful, so, please, keep up the good work!

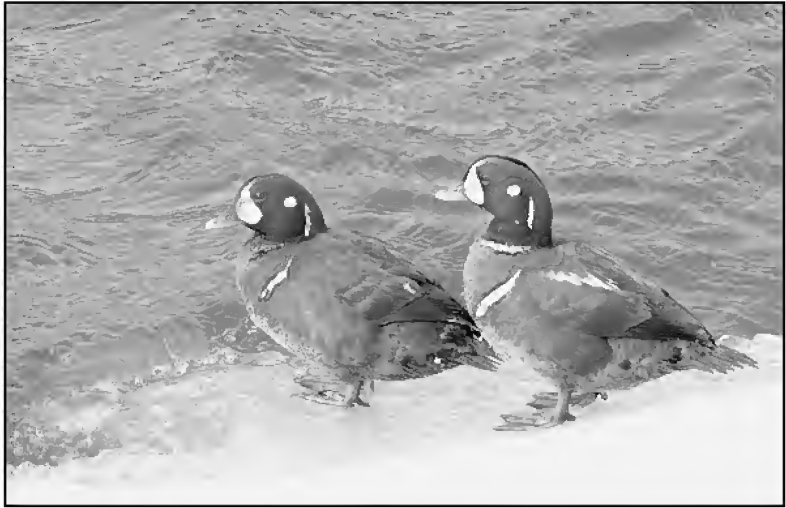
In addition to the list below, Steve Badge, Matt Baumann, Alan Brown, Mark Brown, Wayne Buchholtz, James Forde, Al Frohlich, Tim Gedler, Helen Harvey, Tucker Lutter,

Catherine McMullen, Josh Obrecht, Al Pawloski, Marietta Peterson, *Sue Roffman, Jim Scheib, and Dan Tiemeier provided reports that were used in species summaries.

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Harlequin Ducks, L&D 14. Scott, 16 February 2007. Photograph by Reid Allen, West Des Moines, IA.



Gyr Falcon, Boone, 28 January 2007. Photograph by Reid Allen, West Des Moines, IA.



Varied Thrush, Woodbury, 28 February 2007. Photograph by Paul Roisen, Sioux City, IA.



Juvenile Sharp-shinned Hawk in Jay Gilliam's backyard, Warren, 17 February 2007. Photograph by Jay Gilliam, Norwalk, IA.



Juvenile Black-legged Kittiwake, below Saylorville Dam, Polk, 7 January 2007. Photograph by Jay Gilliam, Norwalk, IA.



Immature Harlan's Red-tailed Hawk, Sandpiper RA, Saylorville Res, Polk, 25 December 2006. Photograph by Jay Gilliam, Norwalk, IA.



Immature Red-shouldered Hawk, Johnson, 18 February 2007. Photograph by Jim Scheib, Iowa City, IA.

Brown Thrasher Winters in Ames, 2006–2007

Erwin E. Klaas



Figure 1. Brown Thrasher at feeder in Ames, 22 February 2007.
Photograph by Erwin E. Klaas, Ames, IA.

A single Brown Thrasher (*Toxostoma rufum*) arrived in my backyard at 1405 Grand in Ames on 4 December 2006 (Figure 1). I saw the bird intermittently through December and into early January. Occasionally it fed on the ground around my feeders, but most of the time it scratched among the leaves under shrubbery where it seemed to be finding insects. From 12 January on, I saw the thrasher nearly every day until 24 March

2007. It was often the first bird to show up at the feeder in the morning and returned several times during the day to feed. I used 8 x 44 binoculars to observe it feeding, and I determined that it selected cracked corn from a mixture that also included sunflower seeds, millet, and peanuts. It often perched in a thick shrub about 12 feet from the feeder or flew into shrubbery in my neighbor's yard. The bird was in excellent plumage and was not injured.

I did not see the thrasher feed on the ground after full snow cover. It always went directly to the feeder usually feeding on the north-facing side. It slashed at the food mixture in the feeder tray with its bill much like thrashers do when they are feeding among fallen leaves. It often pounded on seed in the feeder tray with its bill with such vigor that its whole body pumped up and down. This seemed to be an unnecessary behavior because most of the corn was cracked and fragmented.

According to weather summaries from the Iowa Department of Agriculture and Land Stewardship, a very mild weather pattern began on 9 December and continued through the

first 12 days of January. During this period, nighttime temperatures stayed above freezing and daytime temperatures were 40 and 50 degrees F. The first subzero temperature of the new year was recorded on the morning of the 12th with zero or lower temperatures reported somewhere in Iowa on 12 of the final 20 days of the month. Story County received 10–12 inches of snow during the month.

February began very cold with below normal temperatures recorded on 16 of the first 18 days of the month. Temperatures moderated from the 19th through the 25th but the last three days of February again averaged colder than usual. There were no subzero readings after the 18th. Snowfall was frequent during the month. Ames received 9 inches of additional snow on the 23th and 24th preceded by freezing rain that coated everything with about 0.25 inch of ice. Another 3 inches of snow fell on 1 and 2 March. Daytime temperatures began to moderate on 11 March and gradually climbed into the 50s and 60s by 15 March and snow cover rapidly disappeared.

On the morning of 22 March, the thrasher came to the feeder and fed for about two minutes. It then flew to the ground and began to thrash through leaf litter beneath the shrubbery. I could not see what it was taking but I could see it swallowing something at intermittent intervals. After feeding on the ground for about five minutes, it flew off.

I searched reports of Christmas Bird Counts published in *Iowa Bird Life* from 1929 to 2006 for records of wintering Brown Thrashers. During this 67-year period, one to nine Brown Thrashers were reported in 56 years. The highest number (9) occurred in 1970 and 1986 when five were reported on the North Linn County count. Eight thrashers were reported in 1979 and 1983. Field reports were sketchy before 1965 when a Brown Thrasher (possibly injured) was reported in 1965 from Sioux City. From 1965 to 2006, one or more Brown Thrashers were reported 35 of the 42 winter seasons; the species was missing only from the following winters: 1966–1967, 1970–1971, 1974–1975, 1985–1986, 1989–1990, 1995–1996, 2000–2001.

Most of the observations in both CBCs and winter field reports were from the southern half of Iowa, but exceptions were Dubuque, Estherville, Decorah, Pine Hollow, Mason City, Spirit Lake, Humboldt County, and Cherokee.

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Slaty-backed Gull at Lake Manawa, Second Iowa Record

Loren Padelford, Babs Padelford, and Carolyn Sonderman

On 16 December 2006 during the Omaha Christmas Bird Count, Loren and Babs Padelford rejoined two members (Suzanne Gucciardo and Steve Lamphere) of the Manawa quadrant at Lake Manawa, Pottawattamie County at 4 P.M. They immediately asked the Padelfords to set up their spotting scope, so they could look at a large, dark-backed gull they had spotted on the ice shelf on the northwest end of the lake. After studying it for some time, they all concluded that Slaty-backed Gull was a good possibility. Because the bird was sitting on the ice they could not see the wing pattern. When it took off at 4:45 P.M. and flew to the south end of the lake, light conditions had deteriorated and they could not see the wing markings.

The bird was a large, bulky, dark-backed gull (Figure 1 and cover photo). A Ring-billed Gull that was standing next to it on the ice, looked like it was approximately half the size. The mantle was a dark, slate-gray color. They judged the color to be intermediate between a California Gull and a Great Black-backed Gull (neither was present). The head was white with a hooded appearance of light brown streaking around the head that extended down onto the breast. There was a dark smudgy area around the eye. The iris of the eye was light. The bill was pale yellow, long, straight, and slender in appearance with a small red spot near the gonys. It had very broad, white tertial crescents when at rest. The tail was all white and was even with the wing tips when the bird was at rest. The legs were a dark, deep pink or reddish pink. The gull was identified as the second Iowa record Slaty-backed Gull (*Larus schistisagus*) (Fuller 1989).

The bird was reported on both IA-Birds and NE-Birds the evening of the 16th. Ross Silcock relocated the gull at dawn on the 17th. About 9 A.M. he saw the bird fly away from the lake to the northwest. It returned and was spotted again about an hour later. When Padelfords arrived at 10:15 A.M., the bird was on the ice shelf east of the picnic area on the north-central part of the lake. Most of the time it was walking along the edges of the ice picking fish out of the ice. Occasionally it would fly up and relocate to another area of the ice. Sometimes it would jump into the water and swim around appearing to look for food in the water. It was quite active and flew to different areas around the lake always landing on the edge of ice shelves. Padelfords noticed, as the wings were spread in flight, that the black of the wings was outlined by a narrow white band at the leading edge of the wing and a broad, white trailing edge. There was a large white mirror on the first primary. The wing tips were black with four white spots across the 3rd to 6th primaries, frequently referred to as the "string of pearls."

When Padelfords left at 1:00 P.M. on the 17th, the gull was on the ice in the southwest part of the lake. This was the last day Padelfords were able to view the Slaty-backed Gull, as they left on vacation the next morning. After that Carolyn Sonderman, Omaha, NE, tracked its

every move and kept birders informed until its departure on the night of 25 December. The lake was nearly completely frozen on the 25th and the bird was seen in a parking lot eating bread with other gulls. On the 26th, the lake was completely frozen. All are indebted to Phil Swanson, Papillion, NE, for his many excellent photos.

When Carolyn Sonderman arrived early on the 17th, after seeing the Saturday night post by

Loren and Babs Padelford, there were already a number of birders there with scopes set up on both sides of the eastern part of the lake and a few people taking photographs. The accommodating Slaty-backed Gull was flying close to the shore and then landing where birders could get a good look. It was a real thrill watching a bird that was supposed to be in Siberia, but instead was sitting on a small lake in Iowa.

Carolyn, as a very late starting birder and having had many people help her find and identify birds, now recognized the opportunity to return some of those birding favors. Having seen the gull enough times so she could identify it, and knowing the area, she decided to check the lake in the mornings and post if it was still present (or call Al Reyer to post). That helped birders locate the gull. Each time another birder gets a lifer, the thrill is shared by all. Birders from as far away as California, Nova Scotia, Missouri, Florida, Kansas, Colorado, Ohio, and the Dakotas (and probably a few places we don't know about) visited Lake Manawa for a chance to add the Slaty-backed Gull to their bird lists. It was an awesome 10 days while the Slaty-Backed Gull visited Lake Manawa, and there are a lot of birders who won't forget that it was here.



Figure 1. Slaty-backed Gull in flight, Lake Manawa, Pottawattamie, 25 December 2006. Photograph by Phil Swanson, Papillion, NE.

LITERATURE CITED

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Dallas County Hoary Redpoll

Tom Lawson

The finch was discovered on 16 December 2006, during the inaugural Dallas County CBC at the Brenton Arboretum south of Dallas Center, IA. The bird was seen feeding in a small grove of European black alder trees and initially was identified as a Common Redpoll, albeit a pale one. Subsequent early photographs of the finch held this identification in question as they showed the absence of streaking on the undertail coverts, which is a critical field mark for distinguishing Common Redpoll (*Carduelis flammea*) vs. Hoary Redpoll (*Carduelis hornemanni*) (back cover photo) (Sibley 2001). It should be noted that field observation of the bird made viewing this crucial field mark difficult due to the finch's activity, the wind, lighting, and viewing angle at any given time.

The finch, a delightful and cooperative little bird, afforded many people a chance to photograph and post their images to IOU's web site gallery, stirring much debate and intrigue among birders from across the state and beyond. These excellent images offered the best glimpse of the difficult to see undertail coverts. Much dialogue was generated on IOU's IA-Bird listserv with various experts on redpolls and IOU members offering their opinion that the bird was indeed a Hoary Redpoll. Documentation on the bird was submitted and the IOU Records Committee decided the finch was indeed of Arctic origin and identified it as a Hoary Redpoll, an Accidental species in Iowa. The bird was a life bird for many.

The redpoll became something of an enigma as far as rarities go. The finch, ever true to his alders, was counted for the CBC, and the Great Backyard Bird Count. The official known dates he graced Dallas County are 16 December 2006 thru 19 February 2007. Unafraid of humans, he took to his paparazzi of birders and photographers in stride. He made *USA Today*, *The Des Moines Register*, and a host of smaller newspapers. Google, an internet search company, even gave him his own classification: "The Iowa Redpoll." More than 300 cars were counted coming to see him at the arboretum, some from as far away as Louisiana. The National Audubon CBC people requested a photograph of him, calling the finch, "The Iowa Redpoll" in their message. A better accolade for our rare Arctic friend, I cannot imagine.

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Barrow's Goldeneye in Decatur County

Jeffery R. Livingston

In the afternoon of 11 January 2007, Matthew Torres, Ben Baldwin, Nathan Miller, and I were looking for ducks coming through Decatur County in front of an approaching storm. We found the larger lakes in the county empty except for two male Red-breasted Mergansers and a female Common Merganser.

We were fairly excited to find the Red-breasted Mergansers, as they are not usually common in our county. We then decided to check some of the smaller ponds we knew usually produced good results. Approaching a small farm pond along a gravel road west of Lamoni, we spotted a large flock of Mallards. When we set up the spotting scope and scanned the flock, we found an American Black Duck. This bird increased our excitement for the day because black ducks are even more uncommon to our county than the mergansers.

We soon realized that moving down the road a bit further would allow us to see more of the pond. Ben set up the scope and immediately found a "goldeneye"-like duck. He noticed the crescent in front of the eye and asked which goldeneye (Common or Barrow's) had the crescent. This caused quite a stir among the rest of us and we all clamored for a look.

Realizing that it was indeed a Barrow's Goldeneye (*Bucephala icelandica*), we immediately started taking notes as each of us called off what we observed. Ben and Nathan were so excited they could hardly write. Matthew made the comment that, as the birds were getting better and better, he wouldn't be surprised to see an extinct Labrador Duck!

The bird had a dark head with an obvious white crescent in front of its eye. The body was white and black all over with the black on the back showing a distinct line of white spots. The white sides and chest were divided by a black line coming down from the back. The bill was dark and short with a nearly vertical flat forehead, not rounded like the Mallards.

After observing the goldeneye for about 15 minutes, we were preparing to get more observers when the flock lifted off and flew over the pasture and out of sight. Some of the flock returned a few minutes later and settled into a corn stubble field with some Canada Geese. We didn't think the goldeneye, being a diving duck, would land in the field, so we continued to wait for it to return to the pond. We waited until dark, but it did not show up, nor could we find it on any lakes or ponds in the area. The next day, the weather turned cold and snowy, so we assume it left the area. Despite that, we still did come checking on the off chance it was still around.

This bird was new to Iowa for Nathan and me, but a life bird for Ben and Matthew. I would be hard pressed to say which I enjoyed more, seeing the others excitement in finding the Barrow's Goldeneye, or seeing it myself.

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Birding Raccoon River Park in Polk County

John Bissell

OVERVIEW AND HABITAT

Raccoon River Park is a large park in West Des Moines. It is well known for its numerous softball fields, walking trails, swimming, and fishing opportunities. The park also harbors some outstanding birding areas and should be checked more often than it currently is, especially during migration. The park can be reached by taking Interstate 35 to the Grand Ave. east exit. Drive east on Grand Ave. for about three miles. There is a sign on the right side of the road pointing to the park.

Raccoon River Park contains varied habitats. In the center of the park is a large lake surrounded by stands of cottonwoods. The area of the park along the Raccoon River is more typical of densely wooded bottomland. The west edge of the park has a marshy area, and there is some grassland habitat on the east side of the lake and along the north shore. Finally, there is a small beach on the north side of the lake, and some mudflats occasionally appear in the southeast section of the lake.

BIRDING THE PARK

Several areas of interest for birders visiting the park are listed on Figure 1. Below is a summary of the birds I have seen and those that I think may be good candidates for appearing in a particular area.

The **marsh area near the parking lots** (Figure 1.1) is the first area you will notice as you begin your loop around the lake. I have seen Green Herons and breeding Wood Ducks and Blue-winged Teal. Hooded Merganser is also a possibility. Early spring is a good time to find Rusty Blackbird and Wilson's Snipe. In May, Northern Waterthrush, American Redstart, Yellow Warbler, Warbling Vireo, and Baltimore Oriole can easily be found in the trees bordering the marsh. There is also good potential for migrants such as American Bittern, Virginia Rail, and Sora.

Blue Heron Lake (Figure 1.2) is not known for large numbers of waterfowl, but some interesting species can be found on the lake. It's a good lake to find mergansers, grebes, and loons in spring as well as small numbers of both diving and dabbling ducks. Great Blue Heron and Belted Kingfisher are easily found near the shoreline, and I have seen Osprey hunting over the lake.

The **tree line bordering the marsh** (Figure 1.3) is a good area to view warblers in both spring and fall because the trees are relatively small, and the birds tend to be lower and often at eye level. Any of the expected migrant warblers can be found along this corridor, including golden-winged and magnolia. American Redstart breeds in this area. There are lots of willows along the shoreline, and both Willow and Alder Flycatchers have been observed. Harris's and Lincoln's Sparrows can also be found in the shrubs.

The **cottonwood stands** (Figure 1.4) are another good area for warblers, vireos, and orioles. Baltimore Orioles breed in the huge cottonwoods, and Warbling and Red-eyed Vireos become more conspicuous as you get closer to the river and adjacent woodlands. Northern Waterthrush and Canada Warbler seem to like this habitat best. Bird boxes for Eastern Bluebird and Tree

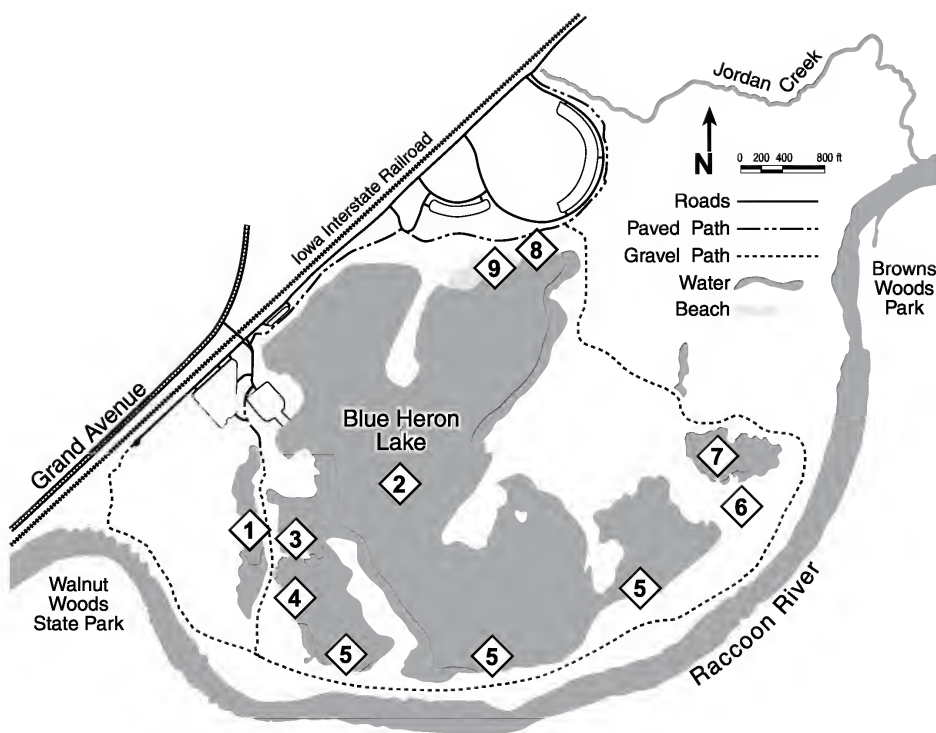


Figure 1. Birding areas in Raccoon River Park: (1) marsh area near parking lots, (2) Blue Heron Lake, (3) tree line bordering marsh, (4) cottonwood stands, (5) riverside woodland, (6) grassland/shrub habitat, (7) pond shallows, (8) weedy/open space, (9) beach.

Swallow are here also.

The largest area of the park for quality birding is the **riverside woodland** (Figure 1.5). This is the best location for Swainson's, Gray-cheeked, and Wood Thrushes, and they often are seen foraging on the path in front of you. All the swallow species except Purple Martin forage over the river, and this is another good place for Belted Kingfisher. Be prepared for "warbler neck" during the warbler and vireo fallout because the trees are tallest here. Scarlet and Summer Tanagers are possible, and this is probably the best spot to see Great Horned, Barred, or Eastern Screech-Owls.

Grassland/shrub habitat (Figure 1.6) surrounds a shallow pond and consists of grass, shrubs, and very small trees. Northern Bobwhite has been found here, and Eastern Phoebe can be seen, because there is a nearby farm building on which it nests. This habitat is the most reliable location to find Palm Warbler foraging among the shrubs lining the pond. Other birds to be seen include Northern Waterthrush, Baltimore and Orchard Orioles, Indigo Bunting, and Great Crested Flycatcher.

Great Blue Herons inhabit the **pond shallows** (Figure 1.7). Often, there is mud exposed on the edges, and during migration, it is possible to see as many as 10 Spotted Sandpipers in a

small area. Wilson's Snipe is also here. Even though I have not seen other shorebirds here, the shallows may attract a few.

The **weedy/open space** (Figure 1.8) is a large mowed area of the park near the softball fields. Shrubs line the shoreline and during peak migration in spring, resident and migrant sparrows are common. Song, Chipping, Savannah, White-throated, Harris's, White-crowned, Lincoln's, and Clay-colored Sparrows can be fairly numerous feeding on the dandelion and other weed seed heads.

Raccoon River Park has a small and relatively productive **beach** (Figure 1.9). In spring, Franklin's, Bonaparte's, and Ring-billed Gulls loaf along with Caspian and Forster's Terns.

SUMMARY

I have birded Raccoon River Park in the fall and had good success with small fallouts of migrant passerines, but my favorite time is early May. I have been able to tally 85 species in the park in a matter of four to five hours, so with a little luck, an alert birder can obtain a good list. The walking trail is well maintained and flat, so practically anyone can bird this park with little physical strain. I encourage everyone, especially in central Iowa, to add Raccoon River Park as one of their birding destinations for spring. Contact me with any questions at my e-mail address below.

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In Memoriam: Walter Rosene, Jr.: 1912–2005

Hank Zaletel

Walter Rosene, Jr. was born in Ogden, Iowa in 1912, the son of Walter Rosene, the first president of the Iowa Ornithologists' Union (IOU). He was a graduate of Iowa State University in forestry and horticulture. In 1936, he moved to Alabama to attend Auburn University where he received a Master's Degree in wildlife management.

He married Kathyn Giles in 1938 and has two sons, James and Walter. During World War II, he served as signal officer on the USS St. Paul, a heavy cruiser.

He was a research biologist for the Fish and Wildlife Service for 25 years and was a wildlife management consultant for more than 30 plantations throughout the southeast.

He was the author of three books and numerous scientific journal articles on wildlife management. His most famous was *Bobwhite Quail, Its Life and Management*. He was a member of many scientific and wildlife societies. Until his death, he was the oldest and

longest serving member of the IOU. He served as an adjunct professor of biology at Mississippi State University for four years.

I wrote and spoke with him for many years. He provided many photos to me taken in the 1920s of early IOU events. He was responsible for the inclusion of his father's bird records, photographs, slides, and motion pictures to be deposited in the Special Collections at Iowa State University Library, the IOU's archives.

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Fifty Years Ago in Iowa Bird Life

James J. Dinsmore

The June 1957 issue of *Iowa Bird Life* contained a more diverse collection of articles than usual. In the lead article, Martin Grant of Iowa State Teachers College (now University of Northern Iowa) discussed his collection of more than 15,000 pictures and popular articles featuring birds. He described how he sorted and stored these items and how he used them in his teaching.

In a second article, Fred Kent, who contributed numerous photographs to *Iowa Bird Life*, described several devices he built so he could photograph birds through binoculars and spotting scopes. Although primitive compared to the technology now available, he was able to use those devices to get some great close-up photographs of birds.

Among the more typical articles were contributions by Myrle Jones on birds seen at Fort Defiance State Park near Estherville and by Dennis Carter on the breeding birds of Lewis, Iowa. The former included reports of Scissor-tailed Flycatcher, Burrowing Owl, and the famous Painted Bunting. While studying nesting Mourning Doves in 1956, Dennis Carter found 63 summer residents in or near Lewis, including at least 27 that he confirmed as nesting.

Obituaries noted the passing of IOU charter member Francis LeRoy Roberts and David L. Savage, editor of the "Iowa Ornithologist," one of Iowa's first bird journals, which was published in the 1890s (Kent 2000).

Kent, T. H. 2000. David L. Savage and the Iowa Ornithological Association. *Iowa Bird Life* 70(4):158–169.

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Checklist Comparison: Iowa and Surrounding States

Daniel J. Akers

INTRODUCTION

The purpose of this article is to help area birders become aware of the rare avifauna in Iowa and its surrounding states. In this article, I will present numbers of each state's Regular, Casual, and Accidental species shared between states; species unique to each state; and species found in more than one but less than all seven states. All records and information in this article are current through spring 2007. This article updates and expands a previous article (Kent 1999), which compared the Iowa and Minnesota checklists.

METHODS

Undertaking this project involved gathering and comparing state checklists from Iowa and its six surrounding states.

I located the ABA checklist on the ABA website <www.americanbirding.org/>. I then copied and pasted this list onto a Microsoft Word document, developed three sections for each state, and applied a Regular (R), Casual (C), Accidental (A), Extirpated (E), or Extinct (Ex) descriptor for the status of the species in that state. If the species was not found in any of the states, it was deleted from the list.

I used the state checklists on each state's ornithological organization web site to find species status information in each state: Iowa <www.iowabirds.org/>, Minnesota <www.cbs.umn.edu/~mou/>, Wisconsin <www.uwgb.edu/birds/wso/>, Illinois <<http://www.illinoisbirds.org/>>, Missouri <<http://www.mobirds.org/>>, and Nebraska <<http://rip.physics.unk.edu/NOU/>>. South Dakota's state checklist was obtained from Tallman and Swanson (2002). I also communicated with Kim Eckert, former chair of the Minnesota Records Committee; James Frank, chair of the Wisconsin Records Committee; Douglas Stotz, secretary of the Illinois Records Committee; Bill Eddleman, chair of the Missouri Records Committee; Ross Silcock, member of the Nebraska Records Committee; and David Swanson, chair of the South Dakota Records Committee for updates and questions about species and status. Many of the information for species unique to a state was provided by Robert Domagalski.

RESULTS

Species Classification Categories

Iowa and all six surrounding states listed in Table 1 utilize the *Regular*, *Casual*, *Accidental*, *Extirpated*, and *Extinct* categories shown in that table to classify bird species in their states. Table 1 represents a general comparison of the variation of expected species on an annual, casual, and accidental basis.

Table 1. Number of bird species in each of five categories for Iowa and six surrounding states

State	Species				
	Regular	Casual	Accidental	Extirpated	Extinct
IA	303	25	83	2	2
MN	312	35	82	2	1
WI	310	36	81	0	2
IL	322	26	82	3	3
MO	325	35	39	6	2
NE	326	41	75	4	2
SD	326	25	65	1	3

Criteria for Species Classification

Criteria for determining species categories in each state are provided in Table 2. This table provides species status breakdowns by state. There is much similarity among the seven states.

Table 2. State criteria for species categories

Category	State	Criteria
Regular	IA	Records in at least 8 of last 10 years
	MN	Seen in 8 or more years of the past 10 years
	WI	At least 1 or more records per year
	IL	Records in at least 8 of the past 10 years
	MO	>15 records, usually reported annually
	NE	Acceptably reported in 9–10 of the past 10 years
	SD	>10 observations in the past 10 years
Casual	IA	Records in at least 3 and <9 of the last 10 years
	MN	Seen in 3–8 of the last 10 years
	WI	At least 1 record every 1–5 years
	IL	Accepted records in 3–7 of the past 10 years
	MO	5–15 records, occasionally reported
	NE	Acceptably reported in 4–7 of the past 10 years and a vote is taken for review on species reported in 8 of the past 10 years
	SD	3–10 observations in the past 10 years
Accidental	IA	Records in <5 of the last 10 years ^a
	MN	Seen in 2 or less years of the past 10 years ^b
	WI	<1 record every 5 years ^c
	IL	Accepted records in no more than 2 of the past 10 years ^d
	MO	1–4 records, a vagrant ^e
	NE	Acceptably reported in up to 2 of the past 10 years and a vote is taken for review on species reported in 3 of the past 10 years ^f
	SD	2 or fewer observations in the past 10 years ^g

^a A. Johnson, pers. comm.

^b K. Eckert, pers. comm.

^c J. Frank, pers. comm.

^d D. Stotz, pers. comm.

^e B. Eddleman, pers. comm.

^f W. R. Silcock, pers. comm.

^g D. Swanson, pers. comm.

Wisconsin, Illinois, Missouri, and South Dakota each have a Hypothetical category. The Hypothetical category varies from state to state, but as a general rule, Hypothetical species are those that were seen by only one observer and have no photographs, videos, or recordings, but are accepted from written documentation.

Species Occurrence

As a group, the seven states have recorded a combined 508 species (excluding Hypothetical species). Of those, 355 species have been found in all seven states, although each species's occurrence may vary from state to state (e.g., Regular in South Dakota, Accidental in Iowa, etc.).

In Table 3, 117 species are listed. This table shows which species have been found in at least two but not all of the seven states. This table could conclusively be used to predict species that could be seen in the future in these states. For example, Band-tailed Pigeons have been found in each of the seven states, with the exception of Iowa. It seems reasonable to predict that this species could occur in Iowa in the near future.

Table 3. Species that have been found in at least two but not all seven of the states

Species	IA	MN	WI	IL	MO	NE	SD
Black-bellied Whistling-Duck	X	X	X	X	X	X	
Fulvous Whistling-Duck		X	X	X	X		X
Bean Goose	X					X	
Mute Swan	X	X	X	X			
Mottled Duck	X			X		X	
Garganey	X	X		X	X	X	
Tufted Duck				X		X	
King Eider	X	X	X	X		X	
Common Eider	X	X	X	X		X	X
Smew		X	X		X		
Gray Partridge	X	X	X	X		X	X
Greater Sage-Grouse						X	X
Spruce Grouse		X	X				
Willow Ptarmigan		X	X				
Sharp-tailed Grouse	X	X	X	X		X	X
Yellow-billed Loon	X	X		X	X	X	
Clark's Grebe	X	X		X	X	X	X
Neotropic Cormorant	X	X		X	X	X	X
Anhinga	X		X	X	X	X	
Magnificent Frigatebird	X	X	X	X	X		
Reddish Egret	X			X		X	
Roseate Spoonbill	X		X	X	X	X	
Black Vulture	X	X	X	X	X	X	
White-tailed Kite		X	X	X		X	X
Harris's Hawk			X		X	X	
Crested Caracara	X	X					
Prairie Falcon	X	X		X	X	X	X
Wilson's Plover		X	X		X		
Mountain Plover						X	X
Sharp-tailed Sandpiper	X			X		X	
Purple Sandpiper		X	X	X			
Curlew Sandpiper	X	X	X	X	X	X	
Black-headed Gull	X	X	X	X	X	X	
Black-tailed Gull			X	X			
Mew Gull	X	X	X	X		X	X
Slaty-backed Gull	X	X	X	X	X		

Table 3. Continued

Species	IA	MN	WI	IL	MO	NE	SD
Glaucous-winged Gull		X	X	X	X	X	
Ross's Gull	X	X	X	X	X	X	
Ivory Gull	X	X	X	X			
Royal Tern	X		X	X			
Sandwich Tern		X		X			
Arctic Tern	X	X	X	X		X	X
Sooty Tern			X	X	X		
Black Skimmer				X	X		
Dovekie		X	X	X			
Thick-billed Murre	X		X				
Ancient Murrelet	X	X	X	X		X	X
Band-tailed Pigeon		X	X	X	X	X	X
Inca Dove				X	X	X	X
Carolina Parakeet	X		X	X	X	X	X
Northern Hawk Owl	X	X	X	X		X	X
Great Gray Owl	X	X	X			X	X
Boreal Owl	X	X	X	X		X	X
Common Poorwill		X			X	X	X
White-throated Swift		X			X	X	X
Green Violet-ear	X	X	X		X		
Broad-billed Hummingbird			X	X			
Magnificent Hummingbird		X					X
Anna's Hummingbird		X	X		X		
Costa's Hummingbird		X				X	X
Calliope Hummingbird		X			X	X	X
Broad-tailed Hummingbird						X	X
Lewis's Woodpecker	X	X	X		X	X	X
Acorn Woodpecker	X					X	
Williamson's Sapsucker		X		X		X	X
Red-naped Sapsucker						X	X
Red-cockaded Woodpecker				X	X		
American Three-toed Woodpecker		X	X			X	X
Black-backed Woodpecker	X	X	X	X			X
Western Wood-Pewee	X	X	X			X	X
Dusky Flycatcher			X			X	X
Cordilleran Flycatcher ^a	X					X	X
Ash-throated Flycatcher		X	X	X		X	
Tropical Kingbird ^b				X	X		
Cassin's Kingbird				X	X	X	X
Gray Kingbird							
Fork-tailed Flycatcher		X	X	X			
Plumbeous Vireo						X	X
Gray Jay	X	X	X			X	X
Steller's Jay						X	X
Pinyon Jay	X					X	X
Fish Crow	X			X	X		
Violet-green Swallow		X		X		X	X
Cave Swallow			X			X	
Carolina Chickadee				X	X		
Mountain Chickadee						X	X
Boreal Chickadee	X	X	X	X			X
Pygmy Nuthatch	X	X				X	X
Brown-headed Nuthatch			X	X	X		
Rock Wren	X	X		X	X	X	X

Table 3. Continued

Species	IA	MN	WI	IL	MO	NE	SD
Canyon Wren						X	X
American Dipper		X				X	X
Northern Wheatear		X		X			
Curve-billed Thrasher	X	X	X	X		X	X
Sprague's Pipit	X	X		X	X	X	X
Phainopepla			X			X	
Virginia's Warbler						X	X
Black-throated Gray Warbler	X	X	X	X		X	X
Townsend's Warbler	X	X	X	X		X	X
Hermit Warbler		X	X	X	X	X	
Kirtland's Warbler		X	X	X	X		
Swainson's Warbler			X	X	X	X	
Hepatic Tanager				X		X	
Cassin's Sparrow				X		X	X
Bachman's Sparrow				X	X		
Brewer's Sparrow		X		X		X	X
Sage Sparrow						X	X
Baird's Sparrow	X	X	X		X	X	X
McCown's Longspur		X			X	X	X
Hooded Oriole	X		X				
Bullock's Oriole	X	X	X			X	X
Scott's Oriole		X	X	X		X	
Brambling	X	X	X			X	X
Gray-crowned Rosy-Finch	X	X	X	X		X	X
Cassin's Finch		X				X	X
Hoary Redpoll	X	X		X		X	X
Lesser Goldfinch	X				X	X	X
Species totals	57	72	64	71	45	82	61

^a The record for Iowa was only identified as Western Flycatcher spp.

^b The record for Illinois was only identified as the Tropical/Couch's Kingbird complex.

Single-State Species

There are 37 species that are unique in that they have only been recorded in one of the seven states. Below, information for these unique species is provided.

Nebraska's **Emperor Goose** (*Chen canagica*) was collected on 17 March 1997 in Clay Co. (Sharpe et al. 2001). Apart from a lone record in Nevada, this is the only valid North American record away from the Pacific Coast states (Domagalski 2005a).

There is a historical record of the tropical **Masked Duck** (*Nomonyx dominicus*) from November 1870 in Rock Co. in southern Wisconsin (Domagalski 2005b).

Minnesota has one record of **Rock Ptarmigan** (*Lagopus mutus*) from Cook Co. on 20 May 1996 (Minnesota Ornithologists' Union 2004).

The **Dusky Grouse** (*Dendragapus obscurus*) is an extirpated species from South Dakota (Tallman and Swanson 2002). The species formerly occurred in the Black Hills, but was believed to be extirpated before the turn of the Twentieth Century (Tallman and Swanson 2002). Reintroductions of this species in the Black Hills in recent years have, thus far, proved to be unsuccessful (Tallman and Swanson 2002).

The **Lesser Prairie-Chicken** (*Tympanuchus pallidicinctus*) is classified as a hypothetical species in Nebraska, but is on the state list (W. Ross Silcock, pers. comm.). All records

of this species are from Red Willow Co. in southwestern Nebraska prior to 1930 and are as follows: 17 September 1924 (male shot), 2 October 1925 (male specimen examined), and 7 October 1925 (2 females/5 males shot) (Sharpe et al. 2001).

Missouri has one record of the oceanic **Band-rumped Storm-Petrel** (*Oceanodroma castro*). The bird was observed and later collected on 1 and 3 September 1950, respectively, from St. Charles Co. in east-central Missouri (Robbins and Easterla 1992).

Three records exist for **Northern Gannet** (*Morus bassanus*) in Illinois: 19–20 November 1983 in Tazewell Co., 9 November 1993 in Lake Co., and 19 December 1993 in Rock Island Co. (Domagalski 2005a).

The coastal **Clapper Rail** (*Rallus longirostris*) was collected in Logan Co., in central Nebraska, on 30 January 1951 (Sharpe et al. 2001). The only other record of this species for the Midwest is from Tennessee in 1986 (Domagalski 2005a).

A Eurasian species, the **Common Crane** (*Grus grus*), has been recorded six times in Nebraska (Domagalski 2005a). All six records are believed to be of different birds (W. R. Silcock, pers. comm.) and are as follows: 25–31 March 1972 in Lincoln Co.; 31 March–1 April 1972 in Phelps Co.; 16–25 March 1974 in Buffalo and Kearny Counties; 30–31 March 1996 in Adams and Hall Counties; 6–26 March 1999 in Buffalo and Kearny Counties; 10 March–2 April 2000 in Adams Co. (Domagalski 2005a).

There is one record of the **Black Turnstone** (*Arenaria melanocephala*) for the entire Midwest and that occurred in Winnebago Co., WI from 22–25 May 1971 (Domagalski 2005b).

A historical record of **Western Gull** (*Larus occidentalis*) exists from northeastern Illinois. The observation occurred from 19 October–17 November 1927 in Cook Co. (Domagalski 2005a).

A lone record of **Gull-billed Tern** (*Sterna nilotica*) is from northeastern Illinois. The sighting occurred on 30 May 1997 in Lake Co. (Domagalski 2005a).

Of the few records of **Large-billed Tern** (*Phaetusa simplex*) in North America, northeastern Illinois has one. The bird was seen from 15 July–20 September 1949 in Cook Co. (Domagalski 2005a).

Wisconsin has a historical record of **White-winged Tern** (*Chlidonias leucopterus*) from Jefferson Co. (in the southeast) on 5 July 1873 (Domagalski 2005b).

Iowa's **Long-billed Murrelet** (*Brachyramphus perdix*) [formerly **Marbled Murrelet** (*Brachyramphus marmoratus*)] was observed at Red Rock Reservoir in Marion Co. on 12 December 1991 (Dinsmore 1993; Kent and Dinsmore 1996).

Monk Parakeets (*Myiopsitta monachus*) are considered established in Cook and DuPage counties in IL; there are several other scattered records around the state (Douglas Stotz, pers. comm.).

The **Greater Roadrunner** (*Geococcyx californianus*) is a year round resident throughout its range in Missouri (Bill Rowe, pers. comm.). The range encompasses the "southwestern and south-central counties, covering about one-fourth of the state, but it contracts or expands according to the severity of the winters" according to Bill Rowe. Bill Eddleman also states that the species is "very local and spreading at present."

One confirmed record of **Flammulated Owl** (*Otus flammeolus*) exists from west-central SD; this bird was heard by several people on 24 May 2002 in Lawrence Co. (David

Swanson, pers. comm.). There is also one Hypothetical record from Custer Co. in west-central SD on 24 August 1994 (David Swanson, pers. comm.).

There is one record of **Black-chinned Hummingbird** (*Archilochus alexandri*) from eastern Missouri. The bird was observed on 10 December 2004 in St. Francois Co., located south of St. Louis (Bill Rowe, pers. comm.).

A single record of **Allen's Hummingbird** (*Selasphorus sasin*) exists from central Illinois. The bird was seen from 16–19 November 1998 in Macon Co. and apparently had been present for about six weeks before these dates (Domagalski 2005a).

Iowa has the lone record of a **Red-breasted Sapsucker** (*Sphyrapicus ruber*) for the Midwest. The bird was photographed near Council Bluffs in Pottawattamie Co. and was observed from 4–6 December 2006 <www.iowabirds.org>.

The **Ivory-billed Woodpecker** (*Campephilus principalis*) is an extirpated species in Missouri (Robbins and Easterla 1992). The species was “formerly an uncommon resident in the Mississippi Lowlands at least as far north as St. Louis” (Robbins and Easterla 1992). There is a female specimen from St. Louis on 8 May 1886 and the last record of this species in the state was from Scott Co. on 8 November 1895 (Robbins and Easterla 1992).

Hammond's Flycatcher (*Empidonax hammondi*) is a regularly occurring migrant in areas of far western Nebraska and is typically recorded in fall with twenty-two records (W. R. Silcock, pers. comm.) However, this species has also been recorded in spring, with three standing records (W. R. Silcock, pers. comm.).

There are four records of **Gray Flycatcher** (*Empidonax wrightii*) from Nebraska, all from Kimball Co. in the panhandle (Domagalski 2005a). The first record was on 17 May 1999 (Sharpe et al. 2001). The next three records are from 2002 and were possibly of the same bird (W. R. Silcock, pers. comm.): 24 August, 31 August, and 4 September (Domagalski 2005a).

There is an historical record of **Black-capped Vireo** (*Vireo atricapillus*) from Sarpy Co. in east-central Nebraska on 19 May 1921 (Sharpe et al. 2001).

Wisconsin has one record of the southwestern **Gray Vireo** (*Vireo vicinior*) from Sheboygan Co. on 3 October 1964 (Domagalski 2005b).

Cassin's Vireo (*Vireo cassinii*) is an uncommon, but regular, fall migrant in western Nebraska; currently, there are forty records for the state (W. R. Silcock, pers. comm.).

Western Scrub-Jay (*Aphelocoma californica*) has been recorded once in northeastern Illinois. The bird was seen from 29 September–30 October 1984 in Lake Co. (Domagalski 2005a).

The **Chihuahuan Raven** (*Corvus cryptoleucus*) is an enigmatic species for Nebraska (W. R. Silcock, pers. comm.). There are 13 reports of this species, including nesting records and specimens (Sharpe et al. 2001). The reports are as follows: April 1877 in Dundy or Hitchcock Co., prior to 1904 in Cheyenne Co., 25 April 1927 in Adams Co. (2 birds shot, later preserved), 9 May 1942 in Adams or Kearney Co., 11 June 1944 in Kearney Co. (nest), 13 April 1947 in Kearney Co. (nest), 1 January 1949 in Keith Co. (undocumented), 6 June 1949 in Lincoln Co. (undocumented), 13 Feb 1954 in Adams Co. (undocumented), 1971 in Dundy Co. (nest, no details), 15 May 1975 in Lancaster Co. (heard, not confirmed), 24 April to 28 May 1976 in Hall Co. (not confirmed, questionable nesting), and 17 June 1979 in Keith Co. (Sharpe et al. 2001).

Three records exist of **Western Bluebird** (*Sialia mexicana*) in South Dakota (David

Swanson, pers. comm.). The first record occurred in Pennington Co., in western South Dakota, on 28 June 1997, and the second record occurred in the central part of the state, in Hughes Co., from 6–8 May 1999 (Tallman and Swanson 2002). The most recent bird occurred in Hardin Co., in northwestern South Dakota, on 9 September 2001 (David Swanson, pers. comm.).

Minnesota has one record of **Fieldfare** (*Turdus pilaris*), which was recorded in Cook Co. in northeastern Minnesota from 3–10 November 1991 (Minnesota Ornithologists' Union 2004).

Bachman's Warbler (*Vermivora bachmanii*) is extirpated from Missouri and was "... formerly a common summer resident along the St. Francois R. drainage in Dunlin Co.; accidental vagrant in southeastern Ozarks" (Robbins and Easterla 1992). There are several other records of this species in Missouri: 17 Apr 1898 in Dunklin Co.; nest, later with three eggs in 1897 in Dunklin Co.; 2 May 1907 in Shannon Co. (male taken); 23 May 1907 in Carter Co. (male taken); 25 Apr–5 May 1909 in Dunklin Co. (rather numerous); spring 1934 in Dunklin Co.; and spring 1948 in Dunklin Co. (Robbins and Easterla 1992).

Illinois has the only Midwest record of a **Grace's Warbler** (*Dendroica graciae*). The bird was observed and photographed at Montrose Point, in Cook County, on 8 Sep 2003 (Douglas Stotz, pers. comm.).

There is one fall record of the **Painted Redstart** (*Myioborus pictus*) from Aitkin Co., in northern Minnesota, on 30 September 1992 (Minnesota Ornithologists' Union 2004).

There is one record of **Rufous-crowned Sparrow** (*Aimophila ruficeps*) from Waukesha Co., in southeastern Wisconsin, from 25–26 November 2000 (Domagalski 2005b).

A lone record of **Bronzed Cowbird** (*Molothrus aeneus*) exists from northwestern Missouri. The bird was collected and dated 5 January 1979 from Holt Co. (Domagalski 2005a).

Nebraska has three records of **Black Rosy-Finch** (*Leucosticte atrata*), all from Sioux County during the winter 2000–2001 season: 12 Nov, 13 Dec–10 Feb, and 9 Mar (Domagalski 2005a). All three records are believed to be of different flocks (W. Ross Silcock, pers. comm.)

Table 4 provides numbers of the single-state (unique) species found in each state.

Table 4. Number of single-state species by state

State	No. of unique species
NE	10
IL	8
MO	6
WI	5
MN	3
SD	3
IA	2

It seems reasonable that Nebraska would have the most unique species (10), given that it has the highest state list of the seven states (448), and is prone to more reports of western and southwestern species than any of the other states. A unique species for Iowa

would have to overshoot a perhaps more likely place to stop. Two examples could include a Kirtland's Warbler blown off course to the west during spring migration or a Mountain Plover deviating from its migration corridor in western Nebraska.

IOWA LIST POTENTIAL AND SUMMARY

There are many similarities between Iowa and its surrounding states, but also a good variety of interesting species. Nebraska has the greatest state list total (448) and Missouri the fewest species (407). Of the seven states, I believe that Iowa and Missouri have the greatest potential to increase their state lists in the future.

Because, of the seven states, Iowa is centrally located, it seems reasonable to predict that more geographic specialties (i.e., species of western or southern origin) could overshoot and occur in Iowa. Some examples could include Anna's Hummingbird or Scott's Oriole (both recorded in four of the seven states). Both of these species have overshoot Iowa (recorded in MN and WI, as well as states farther to the east) and it seems likely that these species, among others, will occur in time.

In conclusion, I hope this article has helped create a sense of the avifauna found in the midwestern United States.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

I thank James J. Dinsmore, Ann Johnson, and Stephen J. Dinsmore, all of whom provided suggestions and comments throughout the period of writing this article. A special thanks is in order for Robert Domagalski, who provided me with a document containing all rare bird records for the mid-continental United States. This article would not have been possible without the help of Kim Eckert, former chair of the Minnesota Records Committee; James Frank, chair of the Wisconsin Records Committee; Douglas Stotz, secretary of the Illinois Records Committee; Bill Eddleman, chair of the Missouri Records Committee; W. Ross Silcock, member of the Nebraska Records Committee; and David Swanson, chair of the South Dakota Records Committee. Several others provided helpful comments and suggestions and also deserve thanks: Bill Rowe, Thomas H. Kent, Aaron Brees, Paul Hertzell, Kayleen A. Niyo, Mike Overton, John Idzikowski, Ric Zarwell, Anthony Hertzell, and those already listed. I also would like to thank those whom I have failed to mention and who helped in my authorship of this article.

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Iowa Ornithologists' Union

Spring Business Meeting

19 May 2007

The IOU spring business meeting was held at Briar Cliff University in Sioux City. In attendance were Sharon Stilwell, president; John Rutenbeck, vice president; Robert Cecil, secretary; board members Jim Fuller and Tim Humpal, and members of the organization. The meeting was called to order at 1:15 P.M.

Secretary's Report. The minutes of the fall business meeting were approved as published in *IBL* 76(4):218–220.

Treasurer's Report. Paul Hertzal reported in lieu of Treasurer Tammy Hertzal. Provided

was a Statement of Financial Position. The Statement of Cash Flows showed that current assets between 31 Dec 2006 and 15 May 2007 had increased during the period by \$4,758.32, bringing total assets to date to \$69,347.15, of which \$56,293.16 was in a Treasured CD, \$6,060.63 in savings, and \$6,993.36 in the checking account. It was brought to the membership's attention that there was deficit of \$2,838.23 because a P.A. system was purchased through the memorial fund and there were some additional meeting costs. The full statement is published in this issue of *IBL*. Rick Hollis asked whether membership dues should be increased. It was noted that this should probably be brought up at the board meeting but that the IOU is in no financial difficulty.

Registrar's Report. Registrar Doug Hunt reported that there are 494 members, 36 over last year, but that 81 still owe 2007 dues. Contacts have been made with these members.

Records Committee Report. Secretary Ann Johnson reported that 2006 records have been completed and that three new species have been added to the state list: Brambling, Red-breasted Sapsucker, and Mottled Duck. It was also reported that Lee Schoenewe completed a six-year term; Rita Goranson was selected to replace him, with her term expiring in 2012. The committee has been working on ways to make the Records Committee process more accessible to the membership. Ann Johnson urged observers to submit documentations promptly. Because of the speed of the evaluations, this information is usually available to the field reports editors by the time their seasonal report is due to *IBL*.

Publications Committee Report. Chair Ann Johnson reported that Phase I of the project to make old *IBL* volumes available in a searchable, on-line format is complete, and she demonstrated its use. Phase II may involve placing the volumes on DVDs for sale if there seems to be sufficient interest. It was also decided by the committee that original photos for submission to *IBL* should be sent directly to editor Kay Niyo and that observers were to be commended for consistently submitting field notes for unusual species to *IBL*. Ann also noted that the listserv is nearly greater than 500 members, which will require an increase in hosting costs of about \$15 per month. She also noted that Paul Hertzell is retiring as editor of the newsletter, and that a replacement is being sought.

Membership Committee Report. Chair Karen Disbrow reported that the committee had not met, but that she was working on obtaining new IOU T-shirts and she asked the membership about their preferences regarding sizes and styles. She also reported the following: she has plenty of checklists for sale, the IOU display has only been used once since the last meeting, the Midwest Birding Symposium will be held on 13–15 Sept in the Quad Cities and that volunteers are being sought to staff the IOU booth.

Projects Committee Report. Chair Doug Harr reported that the committee received five applications, of which four were funded. They included \$2,000 toward the purchase by the Winnebago County Conservation Board of 105 acres of critical habitat along the Winnebago River Greenbelt; \$1,500 toward the purchase by the Natural Heritage Foundation of 93 acres of critical habitat on the east side of Big Spirit Lake in Dickinson Co.; \$1,750

toward habitat improvement and evaluation by The Nature Conservancy of Iowa at the Broken Kettle Grasslands in Plymouth Co.; and \$750 toward assistance in raptor banding research by the Pottawattamie Co. Conservation Board at the Hitchcock Hawk Watch.

Travel Committee Report. Acting Chair Bill Scheible reported for the committee that it is hoping to offer one out-of-state and one in-state trip per year, adding that Ann Johnson's recent trip to South Texas with ten IOU members was very successful. Jim Fuller has offered to host a trip to southern California, including mountain and beach habitats in addition to the Salton Sea. The committee is also considering trips to noteworthy Iowa Natural Heritage Foundation areas such as to Blackmun Prairie in Butler and Franklin Counties to assist with species inventories.

Library Committee Report. Sharon Stilwell reported for Chair Hank Zaletel that he is continuing to archive articles from statewide periodicals and newspapers about birds in Iowa; he is also writing an article on Walter Rosene, IBL's first president.

Audit Committee Report. Judy Garton reported that she, Mary Kuhlman, and Rita Goranson audited the IOU financial records and found them to be in excellent shape.

Election of Officers. Chair Francis Moore reported that the committee, also consisting of Mark Proescholdt and Tom Johnson, met by e-mail and telephone and proposed the following slate of candidates. For president, John Rutenbeck. With no other nominations, John was accepted as president by acclamation. For vice president, Paul Roisen. With no other nominations, Paul was accepted as vice president by acclamation. For directors, Jim Fuller and Bill Scheible. With no other nominations, Jim and Bill were accepted as directors by acclamation.

Announcements. Doug Harr reported that the solicitation for new Breeding Bird Survey volunteers was successful, with seven of the 10 vacant routes filled. There remains a need for participants for routes in Sioux, Hancock, and Kossuth Counties.

President Stilwell announced the winners of the IOU photo contest, as judged by Carol Berrier, Jay Gilliam, and Reid Allen.

First Prize: Cape May Warbler by John Bissell

Second Prize: Black-Throated Blue Warbler by J. Scott Garrett

Third Prize: Dickcissel by Dick Stilwell

Student Special Mention: Leucistic Great Blue Heron by Tucker Lutter

Honorable Mentions: Common Nighthawk by Darlene Ayres, Marsh Wren by Dick Stilwell, Barred Owls by J. Scott Garrett, White throated Sparrow by Dick Stilwell, and Northern Waterthrush by J. Scott Garrett

The membership was reminded that the fall 2007 meeting will be held on 26–28 Oct in Ankeny; Jim Rising, author of *Sparrows of the United States and Canada*, will be the keynote speaker. The spring 2008 meeting will be held during the last weekend in April at Oskaloosa.

New Business. Steve Dinsmore and Karen Kinkead of the Iowa Department of Natural Resources (DNR) discussed the possibility of re-doing the *The Iowa Breeding Bird Atlas*, last published in 1996. The effort would begin next year, and electronic data entry and other information could be placed on the IOU website, which would offer a continually updated record of reporting activity. Karen added that there had been many changes to Iowa's habitats since the last atlas and a new atlas would help to determine how those changes affect the birds. The DNR would provide an intern to assist with technical support and other tasks, and would be seeking matching funds to support the atlas project. As with the previous atlas, a steering committee would be formed, and at least 20 hours of observation would be the goal for each of the standard and priority blocks. When asked for a show of hands, most members present agreed to assist with data collection.

Paul Hertzell thanked Sharon Stilwell and John Rutenbeck for their excellent work as president and vice president, respectively.

Adjournment. Ann Johnson moved and Bruce Ehresman seconded that the meeting be adjourned. All ayes, motion carried. The meeting was adjourned at 2:15 P.M.

Respectfully submitted by Robert I. Cecil, secretary

Iowa Ornithologists' Union Board Meeting

19 May 2007

The IOU board meeting was held at Briar Cliff University at Sioux City. In attendance were Sharon Stilwell, president; John Rutenbeck, vice president; Robert Cecil, secretary; and board members Jim Fuller and Tim Humpal. Board member John Bissell was connected by telephone. Also present were Bill Scheible, Ann Johnson, Doug Hunt, Dick Tetrault, Doug Harr, Bruce Ehresman, Jay Gilliam, Tom Johnson, Steve Dinsmore, Kay Niyo, and Paul Hertzell. The meeting was called to order at 4:20 P.M.

Secretary's Report. The minutes of the fall board meeting were approved as published in *IBL* 76(4):220–222.

Projects Committee Report. President Stilwell reported to the membership that on 7 May, Carolyn Fischer moved and John Bissell seconded that the board approve the commitment of \$6,000 to the Projects Committee. Discussion followed regarding the fact that

this money was to be used over a three-year period. There were eight votes in favor of the motion and one against. The motion carried.

Records Committee Report. It was reported that Rita Goranson was unanimously appointed by the Records Committee to the committee by e-mail balloting.

Treasurer's Report. Paul Hertzel reported in lieu of Treasurer Tammy Hertzel. It was noted in the Statement of Cash Flows provided to the board that the IOU had a deficit of \$2,838.23 during 2006. It was moved by John Rutenbeck and seconded by Tim Humpal that the board recognizes that there was a deficit. All ayes, motion carried.

Bill Scheible questioned why, in the distributed material, that meeting income was shown to be over \$12,000 in 2005 and over \$8,000 in 2006 but only \$1,463 for 2007. John Rutenbeck replied that he had not yet submitted the checks he had received for this meeting, and added that he is a little uncomfortable with handling the checks since some are made out to him, which he can cash, and some made out to the IOU, which he must send to Treasurer Tammy Hertzel. Doug Hunt noted that additional money had been spent on the projects, and Sharon Stilwell noted that some donations from 2006 had not been spent. The treasurer's report was accepted.

Registrar's Report. Doug Hunt reported that he would send out reminders to the 80 members who had not yet renewed their membership. They receive the spring issue of *IBL*, however, before being dropped if they do not renew.

Membership Committee Report. Karen Disbrow inquired how she should handle T-shirt purchases if they totaled more than her budget of \$600. Following discussion, it was decided that if the cost was over \$600, Karen should get an estimate and obtain approval from the board.

Projects Committee Report. It was reported that Tom Johnson is leaving the committee and Mary Beth Hunt was proposed as his replacement. Jim Fuller moved and Tim Humpal seconded that Mary Beth Hunt be named to the Projects Committee. All ayes, motion carried. Tom Johnson thanked the board for its approval of the proposed expenditures and thanked Jay Gilliam and Ann Johnson for their assistance in the committee's work. It was noted that the IOU certificate of deposit is earning about \$600 per quarter, and this revenue could be used to support the projects. Finally, the board was reminded of the need to complete a 2008 budget by 31 Dec 2007.

Publications Committee Report. Ann Johnson reported that about \$5,500 of the \$10,000 Ann Barker bequest had been spent. Its use will continue with Phase II, which will result in more efficient use of bandwidth and enable downloading of only one page or article instead of an entire volume. Ann Johnson is beginning to research these technologies and hopes to have Phase II development underway by fall. She also asked if there should be a motion to approve the anticipated increase in cost to host the website. It was suggested that the board wait until final costs are known.

Ann also reminded the board that applicants to assume editorship of the newsletter are being sought. Editor Paul Hertzell wondered about the newsletter's future; whether it should continue to be printed or sent out electronically, or whether it should be reduced to two issues per year, probably sent prior to IOU spring and fall meetings. Steve Dinsmore suggested a survey might be conducted to assess member opinion. The Publications Committee will consider these issues.

Travel Committee Report. It was questioned whether this committee should become a *standing* rather than *ad hoc* committee. Overall, the committee has been very successful, acquiring insurance and offering several successful trips. John Rutenbeck, the new president, will work with the committee and the board regarding any change in status.

Old Business. There was no old business.

New Business. Steve Dinsmore noted that the membership is solidly behind supporting the Breeding Bird Atlas project. The next step will be to form a committee, probably of five people, including perhaps two from the Iowa Department of Natural Resources and three from the IOU. Sharon suggested that Steve could forward suggestions to the board at the fall meeting or by e-mail.

John Rutenbeck recommended that Mark Proescholdt, Dick Tetrualt, and Sharon Stilwell be named to the Nominating Committee to propose candidates for secretary, treasurer, and the board for the spring 2008 election of officers. It was so moved by Tim Humpal and seconded by Jim Fuller. All ayes, motion carried.

Ann Johnson noted that, as a result of the Ann Barker Memorial Library project, 75 years of searchable IBLs could be put on a DVD and made available for as little as \$15 or \$20, adding that they could easily be reproduced as needed.

It was reported that the fall meeting will be held 26–28 Oct. in Ankeny, and that Jim Rising, author of *Sparrows of the United States and Canada*, will be the keynote speaker. The spring 2008 meeting will be held during the last weekend in April at Oskaloosa. Tom Schilke is considering an offer to host the fall 2008 meeting in Iowa Falls.

The board was reminded that the budget needs to be approved prior to the end of the year, either at the fall meeting or at a special meeting. Also discussed was the disposition of valuable gifts, especially for the silent auction, because some likely far exceed in value what they might bring at an IOU meeting. It was suggested that Bob Cecil post on the listserv a request for individuals who might have knowledge and experience in selling such items online, such as on E-Bay.

Adjournment. John Bissell moved that the meeting be adjourned and Tim Humpal seconded. All ayes, motion carried. The meeting was adjourned at 5:20 P.M.

Respectfully submitted by Robert I. Cecil, secretary

STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENSES & BUDGETS

COMPARATIVE INFORMATION FOR THE YEARS ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2005 AND 2006

		2006 Proposed Approved (10/23/05)	
Revenues	2005 Revenues		2006 Revenues
Dues:			
Prepaid Memberships			330.00
Fledgling (\$12) - Students & New Members	12.00		12.00
Goldfinch (\$20) - Regular Membership	3,180.00		2,220.00
Bluebird (\$35)	3,500.00		1,735.00
Baltimore Oriole (\$50)	1,600.00		1,050.00
Great Egret (\$75)	300.00		375.00
Osprey (\$100)	1,675.00		900.00
Bald Eagle (\$250)	250.00		
Peregrine Falcon (\$500)			
Institutional	640.00		80.00
Life			
Other			
Total Dues	11,157.00	12,000.00	6,702.00
Advertising	115.00		
Amortize life Memberships (56)			
Donations:			
Specified - Publications	1,080.00	1,000.00	676.00
Specified - Communications	5.00		
Specified - Listserve			50.00
Unspecified	1,875.00	800.00	1,883.00
Memorials			
Total Donations	2,960.00	1,800.00	2,609.00
Meeting Income	12,931.28		8,574.75
Bird Trip Income	1,300.00		12,360.00
Sales	1,023.97	1,000.00	544.20
Merchandise, T-shirts, Denim shirts, Hats, Pins, Patches, Misc.			
Sales - Designated to Publications			
On-line sales (Witth Out Bricks, etc.)	616.39	400.00	67.97
Back Issues	39.68		5.00
Total Sales - Designated to Publications	656.07	400.00	72.97
Interest Income:			
Checking/Savings	32.48		98.58
Cert of Deposit - 1997	435.81		
Cert of Deposit - 8037	246.90		
Cert of Deposit - 8011	120.88		
Treasured CD	407.26	1,600.00	2,277.72
Total Interest Income	1,243.33	1,600.00	2,376.30
Auctions-Designated to Publications	638.00	300.00	253.00
Special Revenue Generators			225.00
Other	-		
Transfer - General Operation Fund		250.00	172.20
Transfer - Special Projects Fund		6,070.10	
Transfer - Memorials Fund			(172.20)
Total Revenues	32,024.65	23,420.10	33,717.22

Expenses	2005 Expenses	2006 Prpposed Approved (10/23/05)	2006 Expenses
Iowa Bird Line			
Standing Committees:			
Publications:			
Newsletter	2,465.61		1,987.96
IBL	11,119.22		11,342.53
Internet Service	589.70		738.65
Total Publications	14,174.53	13,200.00	14,069.14
Membership	497.77	500.00	57.54
Records	102.55	100.00	6.80
Library/Historical		25.00	
Conservation/Projects		50.00	
Total Standing Committees	14,774.85	13,875.00	14,133.48
Ad Hoc Committees:			
Conservation/Projects		----	
Trips - see Rev/Exp			
Total Ad Hoc Committees	-	-	-
Meeting Expenses	9,902.21	1,200.00	9,798.99
Bird Trip Expenses	810.04	250.00	11,806.59
Sales			29.43
Merchandise, T-shirts, Denim shirts,			
Hats, Pins, Patches, Misc.	735.63	600.00	
Check Lists	245.00		
Outside Projects/Donations		6,070.10	
Officers			
President		50.00	
Vice President		50.00	
Treasurer	87.69	50.00	
Secretary		25.00	
Registrar/Membership	424.13	600.00	
Total Officers	511.82	775.00	-
Bank & PayPal Fees	284.41	200.00	264.76
Insurance			
Liability	350.00	350.00	350.00
Bonding Treasurer	225.00	100.00	
Total Insurance	575.00	450.00	350.00
Auctions/Special Revenue Generators			
Others	37.45		172.20
Conservation, Education, General Fund			
Total Expenses	27,876.41	23,420.10	36,555.45
Net Surplus (Deficit)	4,148.24	-	(2,838.23)

TREASURER'S REPORT—TAMMY M. HERTZEL

STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS
FOR THE PERIODS ENDING 31 DECEMBER 2005 AND 2006

Current Assets at December 31, 2005		
Checking	2,647.08	
Savings	11,395.81	
CD - 1997	-	
CD - 8037	-	
CD - 8011	-	
Treasured CD	53,384.17	
Total Current Assets at December 31, 2005		67,427.06
Y-T-D 2006 Net Surplus / (Deficit)		(2,838.23)
Current Assets at December 31, 2006		
Checking	865.89	
Savings	8,061.05	
CD - 1997	-	
CD - 8037	-	
CD - 8011	-	
Treasured CD	55,661.89	
Total Current Assets at December 31, 2006		64,588.83

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION 31 DECEMBER 2006

	At December 31, 2005	2006 Budget	2006 Incr (Decr)	At December 31, 2006
Current Assets				
Checking	2,647.08			865.89
Savings	11,395.81			8,061.05
CD - Treasured CD	53,384.17			55,661.89
Total Current Assets	67,427.06			64,588.83
Fund Balances				
Publications Fund	3,447.66	13,200.00	(13,067.17)	3,580.49
Life Membership Fund	12,313.89		(1,020.00)	11,293.89
Outside Projects Fund	6,794.60		-	6,794.60
Total Specific Funds	22,556.15	13,200.00	(14,087.17)	21,668.98
Memorials	15,110.00		(172.20)	14,937.80
General Operating Fund	29,760.91	(13,200.00)	11,421.14	27,982.05
Total Fund Balance	67,427.06		(2,838.23)	64,588.83

ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP DUES (renewable yearly): Fledgling (students) \$15, Institutional \$20, Goldfinch \$20, Bluebird \$35, Oriole \$50, Egret \$75, Osprey \$100, Bald Eagle \$250, and Peregrine Falcon \$500+. Membership dues entitle members to receive *Iowa Bird Life* and *IOU News* quarterly and to vote and hold office in the Union. Contributions are tax deductible to the extent allowed by law. Manage your membership on-line at <www.iowabirds.org> or send new subscriptions and memberships, back issue requests, or address changes to Douglas Hunt, 1201 High Ave., West, Oskaloosa, IA 52577 (iou@mahaska.org). Renewals may be sent to the IOU Treasurer (see inside front cover).

INSTRUCTIONS TO AUTHORS: Original manuscripts, notes, letters (indicate if for publication), editorials, and other material relating to birds in Iowa should be sent in Word or WordPerfect to the editor. Research manuscripts will be sent for peer review. Submission of material should be by e-mail attachment or CD/DVD; alternatively, by mail, typed, or handwritten.

Photos and graphics: Submit photos and slides preferably as TIFF (*.tif) images or as high resolution JPEG (*.jpg) images in e-mail attachment or on CD/DVD.

Send all materials other than seasonal field reports to Kayleen A. Niyo at Kay@KayNiyo.com or by mail to 25100 Sunset Lane, Evergreen, CO 80439. Deadlines for submission are **January 1 for winter issue (Vol. 1), April 1 for spring issue (2), July 1 for summer issue (3), October 1 for fall issue (4)**. Send seasonal field reports to field reports editors by deadlines listed on inside front cover.

IOU NEWS: Paul Hertzelt, Editor, 1432 East State Street, Mason City, IA 50401 (phertzelt@rconnect.com)

IOU WEB SITE: <www.iowabirds.org>, Ann Johnson, Webmaster

IOWA RBA: Danny Akers (birdmandan1231@hotmail.com)

CHRISTMAS BIRD COUNT: Deadline for receipt of reports is 15 January. For forms and instructions, contact Christopher J. Caster, 4 South Ridge Ct., Coralville, IA 52241 (cjcaster@earthlink.net).

BIRD SIGHTINGS: Subscribe at <www.iowabirds.org>

ADDRESS CHANGES: Update your on-line profile at <www.iowabirds.org> or send address changes to Registrar Douglas Hunt, 1201 High Ave., West, Oskaloosa, IA 52577 (iou@mahaska.org).

UPCOMING MEETINGS OF THE IOWA ORNITHOLOGISTS' UNION: Fall 2007: 26–28 October, Ankeny; Spring 2008: 25–27 April, Oskaloosa

FRONT COVER PHOTO: Second Iowa record Slaty-backed Gull at Lake Manawa, *Pottawattamie*, 25 December 2006. Photograph by Phil Swanson, Papillion, NE. See article in this issue.

BACK COVER PHOTO: Hoary Redpoll in Brenton Arboretum, *Dallas*, 29 December 2006. Photograph by Ann Johnson, Norwalk. See article in this issue.

DESIGN: Marshall Desktop Publishing Inc., Evergreen, CO

GRAPHICS: Richard Beachler, Boone, IA



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